

EU border crisis

Polish forces use tear gas to turn back migrants at Belarus border. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Russia denies accusations

Kremlin says it didn't endanger astronauts aboard the space station. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Consumer spending

Americans ramped up spending last month at retail stores and online. **NEWS, PAGE 10**

Seasonable

Mixed clouds and sunshine, with a high of 51. **SPORTS, PAGE 6**

Hartford Courant



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Outbreak batters nursing home

State records highest single-day positivity rate since August as numbers continue to increase

By Alex Puttermann
Hartford Courant

As Connecticut recorded its highest single-day COVID-19 positivity rate since Aug. 31, the state's top public health official on Tuesday said a recent uptick in infections is being driven by vaccine holdouts.

"We still have an unvaccinated group, and the unvaccinated group are certainly the drivers of this virus still being able to persist in

the community," said Dr. Manisha Juthani, commissioner of the Department of Public Health.

Juthani downplayed Tuesday's high positivity rate, noting that the daily rate sometimes "bounces around a little bit" and promising that the state has "all the tools in front of us on how to deal with this virus."

Still, the state's broader trend is difficult to deny. Connecticut's

Turn to Virus, Page 3

4.31%

The state reported 544 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday out of 12,617 tests, for a daily positivity rate of 4.31%. That unusually high figure is part of a trend that has played out over recent weeks, as the state's seven-day positivity rate has increased from well below 2% to nearly 3% currently.

At least 8 dead, dozens infected with COVID-19 at North Canaan care facility over the last six weeks

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

At least eight residents of a North Canaan nursing home have died of COVID-19 during an outbreak of the virus that spread through the facility over the last six weeks.

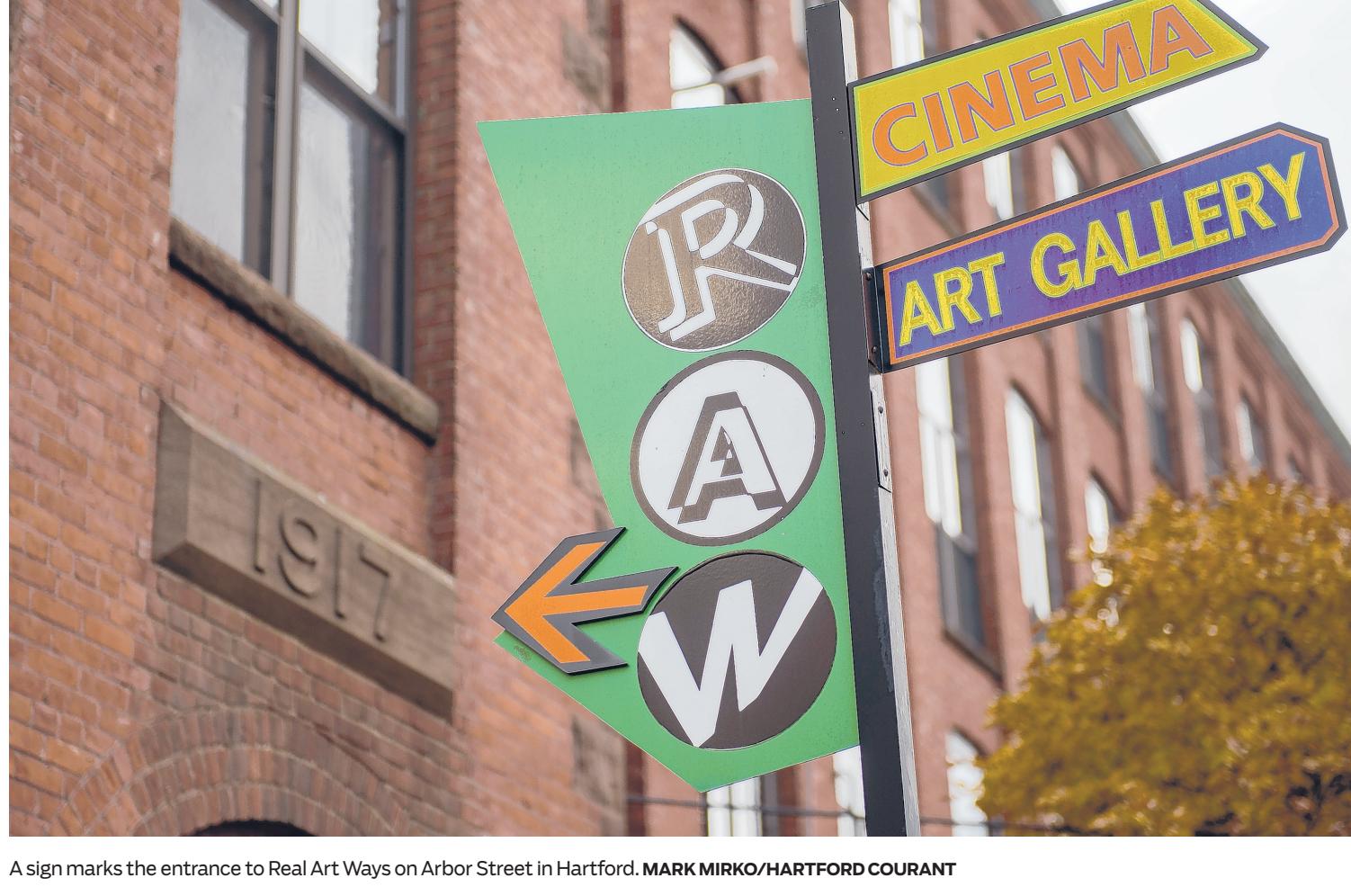
Since late September, Geer Village Senior Community has recorded 67 positive cases of COVID-19 among its residents, of whom 56 recovered. As of Monday, there were still three active cases of

the virus, out of a total of 70 residents. The COVID-19 outbreak occurred in Geer's skilled nursing facility, and the nursing home said that it has not impacted its assisted living facility, Geer Lodge.

Kevin O'Connell, chief executive officer of Geer Village Senior Community, said in a statement that the eight residents who died of COVID-19 had "serious underlying health issues."

Turn to Outbreak, Page 3

Hartford's Real Art Ways plans \$15M expansion, biggest in organization history



A sign marks the entrance to Real Art Ways on Arbor Street in Hartford. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

INFRASTRUCTURE LEGISLATION

In NH, president heralds upgrades

Biden looks to build better awareness of plan in communities

By Colleen Long,
Holly Ramer
and Alexandra Jaffe
Associated Press

WOODSTOCK, N.H. — Fighting sagging poll ratings, President Joe Biden set out Tuesday on a national tour to persuade everyday Americans of the benefits of his big, just-signed infrastructure plan.

First stop: New Hampshire, a state that gave him no love in last year's presidential primaries.

Biden left the state in February of 2020 before polls had even closed on his fifth-place primary finish. But he returned as president, eager to talk up the billions in investments in upgrading America's roads, bridges and transit systems that he signed into law Monday.

Walking across a rusted, rural New Hampshire bridge that's been tagged a priority for repairs since 2014, Biden framed the infrastructure law in direct and human terms. He said it would have a meaningful impact here, from efficient everyday transportation to keeping emergency routes open.

Turn to Biden, Page 3



President Biden greets well-wishers after promoting the infrastructure law Tuesday in Woodstock, New Hampshire.
MANDEL NGAN/GETTY-AFP

GENERATING CREATIVITY

By Kenneth R. Gosselin | Hartford Courant

Real Art Ways, the contemporary arts center in Hartford, is embarking on what is expected to be a \$14.7 million expansion — the largest in its 46-year history — starting with the purchase of the Arbor Street building where the organization has leased space for more than three decades. The plans, announced Tuesday, call for the addition of three movie screens, bringing the arts organization's total to four. The expansion also is expected to include a dedicated space for the performing arts, a new café and more space for educational programs.

Will K. Wilkins, RAW's executive director, said the organization has reached an agreement to buy the former Underwood typewriter factory at 56 Arbor St. in the city's Parkville neighborhood for just over \$4 million. The purchase, included in the overall expansion price tag, is expected to be completed by the end of the year, Wilkins said.

The renovation and expansion is expected to start by the fall of 2022 and be completed within two years.

"It's going to work in many different ways, and I think it's going to put us in a different place in people's minds as a permanent fixture in the Hartford landscape," Wilkins said in an interview.

Turn to Arts, Page 3

Lamont to no longer seek climate change bill

By Daniela Altomari
and Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

Gov. Ned Lamont said Tuesday that he will no longer pursue a controversial climate change initiative that stalled after legislators argued it would lead to higher

gasoline prices for Connecticut drivers.

Lamont, a Democrat, said his reasons were pragmatic for cooling on the Transportation and Climate Initiative, a regional plan to reduce greenhouse gases that was once at the heart of his effort to address climate change.

"Look, I couldn't get that through when gas prices were at a historic low, so I think the legislature has been pretty clear that it's going to be a pretty tough rock to push when gas prices are so high, so no," Lamont said Tuesday, acknowledging that the cost of motor fuel was likely to rise under

the initiative, known as TCI.

At a later appearance in East Hartford, Lamont said that gasoline prices had reached a seven-year high and there was not enough support in the legislature in 2022 — a year when both

Turn to Lamont, Page 2

West Hartford superintendent wins award

West Hartford's Tom Moore was named the state's 2021 Superintendent of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

Opinion.....News, 12
Obits.....News, 14-16
Lottery.....News, 2
Classified.....News, 13
Puzzles... Connecticut, 7, 9
Comics... Connecticut, 8-9

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GRAND REOPENING!

FROM PAGE ONE

Lamont

from Page 1

Lamont and the entire legislature are up for reelection.

"It's probably not the year to do it this year with gas prices where they are," Lamont said. Asked whether the proposal could be revived in 2023, Lamont said, "Yeah, let's see where we are."

On electronic highway tolls, Lamont said they were no longer needed.

"We have more tax revenue coming in so that's strengthening our transportation fund in a way no one could have anticipated," Lamont said. "On top of that, we have the highway user fee that kicks in I think it's next year, so that's going to make a difference in the big tractor trailer trucks coming in often from out of state. So I think we're going to be in pretty good shape."

TCI is a regional "cap-and-trade" proposal to raise money to address climate change by reducing motor vehicle pollution, which is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions. It would require large gasoline and diesel fuel wholesalers to purchase allowances to offset the environmental harm caused by combustion of the carbon-based fuels they sell in Connecticut, essentially putting a price tag on pollution.

Republicans have branded the plan as a gas tax and have been pushing to kill it for months. Over the fall, the party organized a series of rallies to stoke opposition against TCI.

While Lamont said that prices would increase by 5 cents per gallon in 2023, opponents countered that it could be 17 to 37 cents per gallon as gasoline and diesel wholesalers would be forced to pay \$80 million per year that would be passed along to consumers at the pump.

The gasoline retailers and the state's truckers association lobbied heavily against the bill, saying that Lamont's projections about future gasoline prices were



Republicans organized a protest Sept. 22 in Berlin against the Transportation and Climate Initiative, calling the plan a gas tax. DANIELA ALTIMARI/HARTFORD COURANT

wrong. They said the timing was bad as some consumers were still struggling with high unemployment and financial problems due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

But environmentalists were not happy, saying it was a setback for the state's efforts on climate change.

"The governor's apparent abandonment of his top climate priority is incredibly disappointing," said Charles Rothenberger, an attorney for Save the Sound. "We know that oil prices are incredibly volatile. That is one of the strongest reasons to implement TCI and provide transportation alternatives that won't subject Connecticut's citizens to the whims of distant oil markets. We can't base long-term decisions about our climate commitments,

transportation infrastructure, and Connecticut residents' health on the conditions of this moment — we need to look at trends and needs over time and plan for decades to come."

He added, "Our state is at a crossroads on climate. ... The governor must take the necessary action to protect Connecticut's residents and communities from climate change. That's exactly what the Transportation and Climate Initiative does, with a proven cap-and-invest structure that would cut emissions by 26 percent over the next 10 years and invest in clean transportation and improved air quality in the communities that need it most."

One of the most outspoken opponents, Senate Republican leader Kevin Kelly of Stratford, said he

hopes the dropping of the plan will be permanent.

"I am hopeful that this shift in Gov. Lamont's position is sincere and more than just a campaign promise," Kelly said. "I hope he is ready to rally with us and push back against Democrats who continue to push for new taxes on those who can least afford them."

One of the issues of concern has been the balancing of the state's \$1.95 billion Special Transportation Fund. But with gasoline prices rising, the fund has collected extra revenue recently because the petroleum gross receipts tax is a percentage of the wholesale price — meaning that more money is collected as gasoline prices rise.

A key factor in keeping the fund solvent will be the highway user tax on trac-

tor trailer trucks that was approved by the legislature and is expected to generate \$90 million per year, starting on January 1, 2023.

Lamont had been one of the climate plan's early and ardent backers. In late 2020, he joined with the governors of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and the mayor of Washington D.C. to sign a memorandum of understanding committing to the groundbreaking multistate program that will reduce motor vehicle pollution by at least 26 percent.

The plan, which needed approval from the legislature, was incorporated into Lamont's budget proposal. Lawmakers held a public hearing on TCI earlier this year, but it failed to come up for a vote in either chamber before end of the legislative session in June.

Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney, a liberal Democrat from New Haven, said at the time that some Democratic lawmakers were concerned about the expected increase in gasoline prices on low-income drivers.

Climate activists had hoped the proposal would surface during a special session of the legislature, but that did not happen.

Lamont maintained his support for the initiative — as recently as two months ago, he told NBC Connecticut, "TCI is a fee on pollutants."

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LOTTERY

Tuesday, Nov. 16

PLAY3 DAY

1 9 8 WB: 6

PLAY4 DAY

6 6 4 2 WB: 2

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

MONDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT

6 6 9 WB: 3

PLAY4 NIGHT

5 7 7 1 WB: 5

CASH 5

9 18 19 23 30

LUCKY FOR LIFE

5 12 14 28 34 LB: 3

Friday's est. Lotto jackpot: \$2.1 million

Tonight's est. Powerball jackpot: \$190 million

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TRIBUNE
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FROM PAGE ONE

Virus

from Page 1

seven-day COVID-19 positivity rate has increased from 1.64% at the end of October to 2.92% as of Tuesday, while cases and hospitalizations have increased as well.

According to state numbers, unvaccinated residents — who make up just under 30% of Connecticut's population — have been about five times as likely to test positive as vaccinated residents.

Cases and positivity rate

Connecticut reported 544 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday out of 12,617 tests, for a daily positivity rate of 4.31%. That unusually high figure is part of a trend that has played out over recent weeks, as the state's seven-day positivity rate has increased from well below 2% to nearly 3% currently. Connecticut has averaged

608 daily COVID-19 cases over the past week, most in a seven-day period since late September.

As of Tuesday, Windham, Litchfield and New London Counties continued to record "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, while Hartford, Middlesex, New Haven and Tolland counties had "substantial" levels of transmission.

Fairfield County had only "moderate" transmission, which means residents there are not advised to wear masks indoors.

Hospitalizations

As of Tuesday, Connecticut has 243 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, up five from Monday and the most at a time since Oct. 19. Hospitalizations have now increased 23% since Nov. 7.

Hospital officials say the vast majority of those hospitalized with serious COVID-19 symptoms are unvaccinated.

Deaths

Connecticut reports additional COVID-19 deaths once a week, on Thursdays.

The state reported 33 COVID-19 deaths last week, bringing its total during the pandemic to 8,809.

The United States has now recorded 765,212 deaths related to COVID-19, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations

As of Tuesday, 81.6% of all Connecticut residents and 92.6% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 71.4% of all residents and 82% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, 18.7% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents have received a booster dose.

Courant staff writer Christopher Keating contributed to this report.

Outbreak

from Page 1

"Unfortunately, this outbreak occurred prior to the booster being available," he said. "87 of the 89 infected staff and residents combined were fully vaccinated so we are obviously concerned we experienced some level of waning immunity."

Since Sept. 30, 22 Geer staff members were infected with COVID-19; all recovered.

The state Department of Public Health did not respond to a request for comment.

Long-term care facilities in Connecticut were particularly hard hit during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, with nearly three-quarters of virus-related deaths in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Of more than 200 nursing homes across the state, 10 — or roughly 5% — had at least one COVID-19 case

"Unfortunately, this outbreak occurred prior to the booster being available."

Kevin O'Connell, chief executive officer of Geer Village Senior Community

among residents from Oct. 27 to Nov. 9, the period for which the most recent state data is available. In total, 45 COVID-19 cases were reported out of nearly 19,000 nursing home residents, an overall positivity rate of about 0.2%.

In early October, Geer announced that a full round of testing on residents and staff had resulted in three positive COVID-19 cases, all of which were among fully vaccinated individuals. Working with the Torrington Area Health District and state Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program, the nursing home said it would conduct additional rounds of testing to mitigate the spread of the virus.

In a notification on its website, Geer said that its

staff is 99% vaccinated and all employees are masking and "practicing heightened infection control procedures."

"Geer is a community of highly vulnerable residents," the nursing home emphasized.

In line with Department of Public Health recommendations, booster shots can only be given to eligible staff and residents 14 days after the conclusion of the outbreak, O'Connell noted.

All visits remain on hold until further notice, though Geer noted that it is permitting virtual and window visits. The facility continues to test its residents and staff for COVID-19 biweekly.

Courant staff writer Alex Puttermann contributed to this report.

Arts

from Page 1

The money for the purchase of the building is in hand, but the rest of the funds for the project, about \$10.7 million, must still be raised, Wilkins said.

The \$14.7 million price tag on the expansion is an estimate that will be refined in the coming months, with a clearer picture and timetable emerging by the spring, Wilkins said.

The expansion by Real Art Ways comes amid a new wave of development in Parkville. Those include arts, cultural and entertainment spaces, incubator space, the addition of new apartments and the opening of a full-service grocery store.

The Parkville Market, opened last year at the height of the pandemic, has been successful and is now planning an expansion.

In late summer, the city took control of a 34-acre, former junkyard nearby that in the future could become a major project with residential, commercial and industrial incubator space.

The expansion announced Tuesday would add nine new full-time jobs at Real Art Ways and another 16 part-time workers, for a total of 12 full-time staff and members and 28 part-time employees.

At a ceremonial event Tuesday at the building announcing the purchase and expansion, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said RAW has been a vital force in the community for years. He said the arts center is one of the few places in the city "where everybody in the city feels at home."

"This new phase is a really big deal," Bronin said. "To be able to expand this facility and expand the mission along with it is a powerful accelerator of what the city is trying to do, what we're all trying to do in Hartford and in Parkville."



Real Art Ways plans to add three movie screens, bringing the arts organization's total to four. The \$14.7 million expansion also is expected to include a dedicated space for the performing arts, a new café and more space for educational programs. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Real Art Ways, founded in 1975 by artists for fostering the development of new works, has been a tenant in the former, 4-story, former typewriter factory since 1989. The organization signed a 30-year lease in 1995.

"It will be a permanent home for us," Wilkins said. "We've been a long-term tenant, but we've been a tenant."

Owning the building will help diversify the organization's revenue, by drawing rents from more than 80 tenants while also being able to expand what RAW offers to the public, Wilkins said.

The expansion to four screens will not only be

able to accommodate more patrons, but be more cost-effective to operate. In addition, it will open up new avenues of programming, such as film festivals.

RAW has long offered live performances but had to use gallery space. The expansion will give performance its own specially-designed area, Wilkins said.

Wilkins said the expansion will include much needed renovations to the 145,000 square-foot building, but the organization plans to keep and foster its tenant base of artists with studio space and other small businesses involved in creative endeavors.

"The building is a generator of creative ideas."

Wilkins said. "That's an important thing for the economy and the spirit of the place."

Wilkins said the purchase of the 1917 building will be financed by \$1 million already secured from the state, \$2 million from donors and a mortgage for the balance.

RAW expects to seek additional contributions for the renovations from donors, tap into tax credit programs — including historic tax credits — and request additional state funding, Wilkins said. He said he also expects financial support from foundations and corporations.

RAW has a donor pool of over 3,000, he said.

"We've taken the million that [the state] has given us and matched it twice over with donations," Wilkins said. "We feel this is a good bet, and we are hoping the state will be generous with us again."

At Tuesday's ceremony, Speaker of the House Matt Ritter, a Hartford Democrat, signaled further support.

As the state stabilizes its finances, "one thing we can't forget — and [Bronin] and I talk about this often — is that you have to have investments," Ritter said. "We have to be fiscally prudent but still make the social investments that make Hartford an attractive place to be."

"So keep calling Will," Ritter said. "We'll be answering those phone calls."

While the expansion is a big step, Wilkins said the organization is confident that the expansion is the right move now for the organization.

"One thing about Real Art Ways is while we might be daring in our programming, we've been very cautious, very conservative when it comes to finances," Wilkins said. "So, we are going to make sure when we go ahead with renovations, we're doing something that we can afford."

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.

Biden

from Page 1

"This isn't esoteric, this isn't some gigantic bill — it is, but it's about what happens to ordinary people," he said. "Conversations around those kitchen tables that are both profound as they are ordinary: How do I cross the bridge in a snowstorm?"

Biden is down in the polls but hopes to use the successful new law to shift the political winds in his direction and provide fresh momentum for his broader \$1.85 trillion social spending package now before Congress.

The president held a splashy bipartisan bill-signing ceremony Monday for hundreds on the White House South Lawn, where lawmakers and union workers cheered and clapped.

"America is moving again, and your life is going to change for the better," Biden promised Americans.

The president and members of his Cabinet are moving, too — spreading out around the country to showcase the package. Biden

stopped Tuesday in Woodstock, New Hampshire, and plans to be in Detroit on Wednesday to promote the new law as a source of jobs and repairs for aging roads, bridges, pipes and ports while also helping to ease inflation and supply chain woes.

"As he goes around the country, he's really going to dig into how these issues will impact people's everyday lives, what they talk about at their kitchen tables," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said.

Also this week, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan will take a tour through the South, hitting Louisiana and Texas; Interior Secretary Deb Haaland will visit Massachusetts, California and the state she represented in Congress, New Mexico; and Vice President Kamala Harris will visit Ohio, among top administration officials on the road.

The president, whose poll numbers have continued to drop even after passage of the bill, is pleading for patience from Americans



President Joe Biden, center, walks along the NH 175 bridge over the Pemigewasset River in Woodstock, N.H., on Tuesday. Biden began selling his \$1 trillion infrastructure law at the bridge, making the case that the money would do more than rebuild roads, bridges and railways. The law, he said, would help the United States regain its competitive edge against China. **KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

exhausted by the pandemic and concerned about rising inflation.

The White House says the infrastructure funding could begin going out within months, and they say it will have a measurable impact on Americans' lives by helping to create new, good-paying

jobs.

Biden defeated former President Donald Trump by 7 percentage points in New Hampshire in the 2020 election, but his popularity has sagged in the state.

In a University of New Hampshire Survey Center Granite State Poll last

month, his overall favorable rating was 34%, with 53% having an unfavorable view.

On Tuesday, the president visited a bridge that carries state Route 175 over the Pemigewasset River.

Built in 1939, the bridge has been on the state's "red list" since 2014 because of

its poor condition. Another bridge over the river was added in 2018.

"The president is going there because there is a broken-down bridge that needs to be repaired," Psaki said.

Under the funding formula in the law, New Hampshire will receive \$1.1 billion for federal-aid highways and \$225 million for bridges, the White House said.

The infrastructure plan overall contains \$110 billion to repair aging highways, bridges and roads.

According to the White House, 173,000 total miles of U.S. highways and major roads, and 45,000 bridges are in poor condition.

The law has almost \$40 billion for bridges, the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the national highway system, according to the Biden administration.

Biden has named former New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu as the liaison between the White House and the states to help ensure things run smoothly and to prevent waste and fraud.

WORLD & NATION

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Roads to racial equity left to states

Biden hoping \$1T infrastructure vow helps fix past bias

By Zolan Kanno-Youngs and Madeleine Ngo
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden's \$1 trillion plan to rebuild America's infrastructure comes with a built-in promise: No longer will roads, bridges and railways be instruments of bias or racism. Communities that ended up divided along racial lines will be made whole.

But the decision about how to spend the money falls largely to the states, not all of which are likely to put as high a priority on that promise as Biden does, raising questions about whether the legislation will deliver on his goal.

"It's hard to have a national approach when the decisions are made state by state," said Beth Osborne, who was an acting assistant secretary in the Transportation Department during the Obama administration. "A fundamental part of this program has always been to have the feds raise money, hand it over to the states and cross our fingers."

The administration has said it aims to repair the damage from the country's history of racial disparities in how the government builds, repairs and locates infrastructure. In the 1950s and 1960s, highway projects often targeted Black neighborhoods, destroying cultural and economic centers and bringing decades of environmental harm. State and local officials often steered roads through Black communities,



Dorothy Wiley opposes a proposed highway expansion near her home in Shreveport, La. EMILY KASK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

isolating them from parks or economic gain.

The task is complicated by a tangle of competing priorities. Some state and local governments might not share the Biden administration's vision for racial equity; others might be aligned with the president politically, but would choose to spend the money differently. And the sheer size of the bill — it is the largest infusion of federal investment into infrastructure projects in more than a decade, touching nearly every facet of the U.S. economy — makes it difficult to track every penny.

About \$660 billion will be provided to the Trans-

portation Department, the bulk of which will be distributed to states, who will have latitude in how to spend it. The package also includes about \$211 billion in "discretionary grants" that require approval from the department.

Dorothy Wiley, whose Shreveport, Louisiana, home sits in the path of a proposed highway expansion, said that while she was encouraged by Biden's pledges for racial equity, she was worried the federal government has limited say over the spending.

The plan to expand Interstate 49, which has been delayed for years and is undergoing an environ-

mental analysis, would cut through the community of Allendale.

While business leaders in the community say the highway would connect the town to economic hubs in Louisiana, Wiley worries it will displace her church and neighbors.

"Looking at where I live right now, it's like they want to push us out farther and, well, it will gentrify the community," said Wiley, president of an organization opposing the development. "My hope is that it won't be the same, but I feel like it will."

Federal officials say there are provisions in place to encourage states to take

equity into account. Transportation Department officials have been working with the Domestic Policy Council, headed by Susan Rice, who leads the president's racial equity initiative, to reach out to local governments to implement the infrastructure package.

Christopher Coes, principal deputy assistant secretary for transportation policy, said projects that prioritize racial equity would be more likely to receive funding from the discretionary grants.

The administration also notes that it already has made an effort to use new criteria in approving grants. In June, the Transporta-

tion Department awarded \$905 million for two dozen state projects and considered climate change, environmental justice and racial equity in its criteria for the first time.

Laura Perrotta, president and chief executive of the American Highway Users Alliance, a lobbying group that represents automotive companies and roadway users, said that states should have broad control over how the federal funds are spent.

Adding capacity on highways could be beneficial for local economies, she said, especially as some states experience population growth. Reducing congestion and widening lanes could also improve safety for drivers, Perrotta said.

"I don't think you can just lock down and say we're not going to expand anywhere because of the ramifications," Perrotta said. "I think you just need to have a balance."

At a White House briefing last week, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said the country had a duty to reckon with past decisions that may have harmed communities of color.

He pointed to a provision in the infrastructure bill that would "reconnect" communities of color to economic opportunity as one potential solution to racial disparities. That program, which Coes said could take the form of developing new public transportation systems, bicycle lanes or even dismantling highways, was shaved down to \$1 billion from the \$20 billion originally proposed, although there is additional funding that is pending in a domestic policy bill that Democrats hope to pass soon.

Tensions escalate in EU border crisis

By Vanessa Gera and Daria Litvinova
Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Polish forces at the border with Belarus used water cannons and tear gas Tuesday against stone-throwing migrants, as Warsaw accused Belarusian authorities of giving smoke grenades and other weapons to those trying to cross the frontier.

The events marked an escalation in the tense crisis on the European Union's eastern border, where the West has accused President Alexander Lukashenko of using the migrants as pawns to destabilize the 27-nation bloc in retaliation for its sanctions on his authoritarian regime. Belarus denies orchestrating the crisis.

The Poland Border Guard agency posted video on Twitter showing water being sprayed across the border at a group of migrants who threw debris, and the Defense Ministry also said tear gas was used against the attackers. Polish authorities said nine of its forces were injured.

Some 2,000 migrants were at the frontier in makeshift camps in the freezing weather, but only about 100 were believed involved in attacking the Polish forces at the crossing near Kuznica, said Border Guard spokes-

woman Anna Michalska. The crossing has been closed since last week.

Police spokesman Mariusz Ciarka later said the migrants there had been "pacified." He added that the attackers had been given smoke grenades by the Belarusians and threw stones at the Polish police, with the events monitored by the Belarusian services using a drone. The Polish Defense Ministry also said Belarus gave some migrants flash-bang grenades.

Belarus' State Border Guard Committee and the Foreign Ministry said they would investigate Poland's actions.

"These are considered violent actions against individuals who are on the territory of another country," committee spokesman Anton Bychkovsky was quoted as saying by Belarus' state news agency Belta.

Lukashenko on Tuesday said his government has deported about 5,000 illegal migrants from Belarus this fall.

"We're not collecting refugees all over the world and bringing them to Belarus, as Poland has informed the European Union. Those who come to Belarus legally, we accept here, the same way any other country would. Those who violate the law, even in the slightest, (we put)



A man tries to evade a water cannon blast during clashes on Tuesday near Grodno, Belarus. LEONID SHCHEGLOV/BELTA

on a plane and send back (home)," he told a government meeting dedicated to the situation at the border.

Lukashenko also said he and German Chancellor Angela Merkel agreed Monday by phone that neither Belarus, nor the EU would benefit from an escalation of the crisis. He said he proposed a resolution but did not elaborate, adding that Merkel is discussing it with other EU leaders.

Some of the migrants have children with them at the border in their desperate bid to reach the EU.

Most are fleeing conflict, poverty and instability in the Middle East and elsewhere. At least 11 deaths have been reported in recent weeks as the weather has turned colder and they are trapped in the dark forest between the forces of the two countries.

While some have managed to get into the EU before Poland, Lithuania and Latvia bolstered their borders, passage appears to be much harder now.

Poland's Defense Ministry said Belarusian forces tried to destroy border fences, and its Interior

Ministry posted video apparently showing migrants trying to tear one down. It said the migrants are using smoke grenades and similar weapons given to them by Belarusian troops who no longer seem to be trying to conceal their involvement.

Poland has taken a tough stand against the migrants' illegal entry, reinforcing the border with riot police and troops, rolling out razor wire, and making plans to build a tall steel barrier.

The Polish approach has largely met with approval from other EU nations, who

want to stop another wave of migration.

But Poland also has been criticized by human rights groups and others for pushing migrants back into Belarus and not allowing them to apply for asylum.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Poland's actions "violate all conceivable norms of international humanitarian law."

Warsaw says Moscow bears some responsibility for the border crisis, given its strong support for Belarus. The Russian government has denied responsibility.

Meanwhile, cybersecurity researchers say they have uncovered evidence that Belarus has been involved in a hacking and disinformation campaign against Eastern European NATO members since 2016 that aimed to sow discord, steal confidential information and spy on dissidents.

Tuesday's report by the U.S. cybersecurity firm Mandiant appears to mark the first time Belarus has been blamed in the campaign known as Ghostwriter.

European Union members have said they suspected involvement by Belarus' close ally Russia, and Poland has directly accused Moscow.

While Mandiant said it had compelling forensic evidence that Belarus was involved in the hacking whose targets have also included German lawmakers, it said it had no direct proof of Russian participation, though that doesn't rule it out and attributing cyberoperations can be difficult.

Russia rejects US accusations of endangering astronauts with space junk

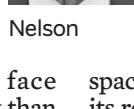
By Daria Litvinova
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian officials on Tuesday rejected accusations that they endangered astronauts aboard the International Space Station by conducting a weapons test that created more than 1,500 pieces of space junk, but a White House official said the move by Russia would threaten activities in space "for years to come."

U.S. officials Monday accused Russia of destroy-

ing an old satellite with a missile in what they called a reckless and irresponsible strike. They said the debris could damage the space station, an assessment backed by NATO's chief.

Astronauts now face four times greater risk than normal from space junk, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said. The defunct Russian satellite Cosmos 1408 was orbiting about 40 miles higher than the space



station.

The test demonstrates that Russia, "despite its claims of opposing the weaponization of outer space, is willing to ... imperil the exploration and use of outer

space by all nations through its reckless and irresponsible behavior," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said.

Even a fleck of paint can do major damage when orbiting at 17,500 mph. Something big upon impact,

could be catastrophic to the space station.

Russia's Defense Ministry on Tuesday confirmed carrying out a test and destroying a defunct satellite that has been in orbit since 1982, but insisted that "the U.S. knows for certain that the resulting fragments, in terms of test time and orbital parameters, did not and will not pose a threat to orbital stations, spacecraft and space activities."

It called remarks by U.S. officials "hypocritical."

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said the strike was carried out "with surgical precision" and posed no threat to the space station. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also charged that it is "hypocrisy" to say that Russia creates risks for peaceful activities in space.

Once the situation became clear early Monday, those on board the International Space Station — four Americans, one German and two Russians — were ordered to seek shelter in their docked

capsules. They spent two hours in the two capsules, finally emerging only to have to close and reopen hatches to the station's individual labs on every orbit, or 1 1/2 hours, as they passed near or through the space debris.

NASA Mission Control said the heightened threat could continue to interrupt the astronauts' science research and other work. Four of the seven crew members arrived at the orbiting outpost Thursday night.



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NEWS BRIEFING

Xi, Biden talks raise hope for better ties, but strains remain

From news services

BEIJING — China on Tuesday welcomed a virtual meeting between President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Joe Biden as raising hopes for better relations, while the U.S. was more muted on the talks as the world's two biggest powers sought to ratchet down more than a year of tensions.

The leaders appeared to put aside the language of acrimony in their first formal meeting since Biden took office. Xi greeted the U.S. leader as his "old friend," and Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said the exchange was candid and constructive.

"If China-U.S. relations cannot return to the past, they should face the future," Zhao said, calling the meeting "conducive to increasing positive expectations ... for U.S.-China relations."

However, both sides held firm to their positions on the issues that divide Washington and Beijing, with Xi warning that the U.S. and Taiwan are playing with fire over the self-governing island that China considers part of its territory.

The two nations were aiming to end a sharp deterioration in relations that accelerated under former U.S. President Donald Trump and had festered since Biden became president in January. The video conference, which lasted more than three hours, took place Tuesday morning in Beijing and Monday evening in Washington.

The White House set low expectations for the meeting, and no major announcements were made. Still, White House officials said the two leaders had a substantive exchange.

Xi echoed Biden's cordial tone in his opening remarks, saying, "China and the United

States need to increase communication and cooperation."

The two leaders had an extended discussion on Taiwan, the U.S. said.

The White House said Biden reiterated the U.S. will abide by its longstanding "One China" policy, which recognizes Beijing as the government of China but allows informal relations and defense ties with Taipei. Biden also made clear the U.S. "strongly opposes unilateral efforts to change the status quo or undermine peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," a White House statement said.

It said that Biden again raised concerns about China's human rights practices and made clear that he sought to "protect American workers and industries from (China's) unfair trade and economic practices."

Arbery case: Prosecutors rested their case Tuesday in the trial of three white men charged with chasing and killing Ahmaud Arbery after the jury saw graphic photos of the shotgun wounds that punched a gaping hole in his chest and unleashed bleeding that stained his white T-shirt entirely red.

Prosecutors called 23 witnesses during eight days of testimony. They concluded with Dr. Edmund Donoghue, the state medical examiner who performed the autopsy on Arbery's body, followed by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's lead investigator in the case.

Donoghue testified that Arbery was hit by two of the three shotgun rounds fired at him. The first shot tore through an artery in Arbery's right wrist and punched a hole in the center of his chest, breaking several ribs and causing internal bleeding, Donoghue said. The second



New Boston mayor: Michelle Wu is sworn in Tuesday at City Hall. The election of Wu marked the first time that Boston voters elected a woman, or a person of color, to lead the city. Wu grew up in Chicago and moved to Boston to attend Harvard University and Harvard Law School. From left are her sons, her husband, Conor Pewarski, and Judge Myong J. Joun. CHARLES KRUPA/AP

shot missed. The third shot fired ripped through a major artery and vein near his left armpit and fractured bones in his shoulder and upper arm.

Catholic bishops: Pope Francis' top envoy to the United States cautioned the country's bishops Tuesday that the church needs to listen before it teaches as they deliberated at their fall meeting on a sensitive document about Holy Communion that emerged amid debates over Catholic politicians' support for abortion.

"It is sometimes said that there is a lot of confusion about doctrine in the church today," Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the papal ambassador, told the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "However, the argument continues that what is needed is clear teaching. That is true, but the Holy Father says a church that teaches must be firstly a church that listens."

His remarks in the first public session of the gathering in Maryland came as bishops were readying to

hold a vote on the document, which has been months in the making and has been surrounded by debate over the taking of communion by President Joe Biden and other politicians who support abortion rights.

Border wall audit: The Defense Department's internal watchdog said its investigation into a \$400 million border wall contract found it was properly awarded to a North Dakota firm whose owner used multiple appearances on Fox News to push for the job.

The Pentagon's inspector general Monday released results of the audit, requested last year by House Homeland Committee Chairman Bennie Thompson, a Mississippi Democrat.

Thompson asked for the review of the contract awarded to Dickinson, North Dakota-based Fisher Sand and Gravel Co. by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that the company's bid met standards and that the contract was awarded

in accordance with federal procurement regulations.

Uganda explosions: Two explosions rocked Uganda's capital, Kampala, on Tuesday, killing at least three civilians in what police described as a coordinated attack by extremists opposed to the government.

Three suicide bombers also died in the blasts, police said.

"The bomb threats are still active, especially from suicide attackers," police spokesman Fred Enanga said, blaming the blasts on the Allied Democratic Forces, an extremist group that is affiliated to the Islamic State group.

The IS group claimed responsibility for the blasts, according to SITE, which tracks the online activities of extremist organizations.

The twin explosions occurred within three minutes of each other. Both were carried out by attackers carrying explosives. A possible attack on a third target was foiled by police who pursued and disarmed

a suspected suicide bomber, Enanga said.

Northwest storm: Nearly 50,000 Washington state electrical customers still had no power Tuesday after days of heavy rain triggered mudslides and floods and forced the closure of the West Coast's main north-south highway near the Canadian border, officials said.

The rains were caused by an atmospheric river — a huge plume of moisture extending over the Pacific and into Washington and Oregon. At the height of the storm, about 158,000 electrical customers Monday had no power. North of Bellingham, authorities said one person was still missing Tuesday after being seen in floodwaters clinging to a tree.

And a motorist in Bellingham was injured when a tree fell on a vehicle. Evacuations were ordered in multiple areas as floodwaters swamped business districts and partially submerged cars in communities north of Seattle.

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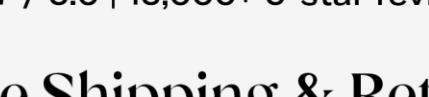
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IS-K puts Afghan Shiites in crosshairs

Suicide bombings under Taliban rule devastate 1 family

By Christina Goldbaum and Yaqoob Akbar The New York Times

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — When Masooma Rajabi saw her relatives flooding into the family's courtyard, she broke down in sobs.

Her family had congregated there twice over the past two weeks: First, to mourn the loss of her husband, who had been killed in a suicide attack on a Shiite mosque in northern Afghanistan and then again after another blast ripped through a Shiite mosque in Kandahar, killing her father-in-law and lodging shrapnel in the skull of her 15-year-old son, Maisam.

She had clung to hope that Maisam would recover. But now, seeing her husband's cousins and her mother weeping, Masooma knew she had lost him too.

"How is this possible?" asked Masooma, 32, burying her face in her damp head scarf.

For decades, violence has torn through Afghanistan's Shiite community, perpetrated first by the Taliban — who consider Shiites heretics — and in more recent years by the Islamic State group's Afghan affiliate, Islamic State Khorasan, or IS-K.

When the Taliban, hard-line Sunni Muslims, seized power in August, they vowed to end decades of bloodshed and sought to reassure Afghan Shiites that they would not again be their targets as they were during the group's previous rule from 1996 to 2001.

This time around, the Taliban have allowed Shiites to observe the holy holiday of Ashura; they dispatched a Shiite cleric to do outreach in Shiite communities; they visited Shiite mosques to demonstrate solidarity; and



Posters of Nematullah, Ezzatullah and Maisam Rajabi, males from three generations of one family — all killed by suicide bombings — dot a wall Oct. 23 during Maisam's funeral in Kandahar, Afghanistan. JIM HUYLEBROEK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

they vowed that the new government would keep them safe.

But two suicide bombings by Islamic State Khorasan at mosques in October, which together killed more than 90 people and injured hundreds of others, stoked fears that the Taliban would allow the Islamic State's campaign against Afghan Shiites to go unchecked.

The attacks also fueled concerns in neighboring Iran, a Shiite Muslim theocracy and self-proclaimed defender of Shiite Muslims around the world, where officials have voiced concerns about the fate of Afghan Shiites under Taliban rule and the threat of a resurgent Islamic State Khorasan launching attacks on Iranian soil.

Now many Afghan Shiites fear the beginning of a new brutal chapter, one in which their security depends on the very movement that once targeted them.

Few understand that devastating new reality more than Masooma and her family.

In the span of two weeks, she and her relatives lost a grandfather, father and son — three generations of Afghan men who spent most of their lives in a country at war but died after the bloodshed was meant to be over.

"When the Taliban became in power, we were not expecting these things," said Masooma's uncle-in-law, Abdul Raziq Rajabi, 50, the morning after Maisam died. "But I can't say now whether the Taliban will support our people or not."

Masooma's father-in-law, Haji Nematullah Rajabi, 60, migrated from the central province of Ghazni to Kandahar nearly a half-century ago and lived a comfortable life in the relative calm of the city. He started selling agricultural equipment; married his wife, Sughra; and eventually had a daughter and two sons.

Ezzatullah Rajabi, 33, Sughra and Nematullah's son, married Masooma, and they had three boys of their own. They moved to Kunduz, an economic hub of northern Afghanistan. The move made sense to expand the family business but terrified Ezzatullah's mother.

After the Taliban briefly seized the city in 2015 and 2016, Sughra called every week begging him to return to Kandahar.

When the Taliban began their military offensive last summer, even Ezzatullah was on edge. After the group seized power and offered public pledges to protect Afghan Shiites, who make up 10% to 20% of the country's population, Ezzatullah said his fears dissipated.

Then, Oct. 8, an Islamic State group suicide attack devastated Ezzatullah's mosque in Kunduz, killing at least 43 people. Masooma heard the

explosion and sprinted to the mosque, knowing her husband had gone there to pray. She scoured the bodies being carried out in bloody scarves, looking for him. The next morning, Nematullah arrived from Kandahar and found Ezzatullah's body — his limbs bent like a rag doll — in a hospital morgue.

Seeing him, Nematullah nearly collapsed. The family returned to Kandahar to bury Ezzatullah, and the following Friday — determined to show his unwavering faith — Nematullah went to his mosque to pray. He called Masooma three times that morning asking her to send his oldest grandson, Maisam, to join him.

Masooma relented. But about 1 p.m., she heard another blast — this time from two suicide bombers who barged into the mosque during Friday prayers. The explosion left bodies scattered across bloodstained

carpets. Dazed survivors poured out of the building through broken windows, while others looked for loved ones.

Nematullah's surviving son, Ahmad Zia, found him among the bodies — his right side bloodied, eyes closed and barely able to speak — and then spotted Maisam, whose head was wrapped in a bloodied scarf. He brought them both to the hospital where Maisam was put on life support and Nematullah died — one of at least 47 people killed that day.

For Shiite community leaders, the implication of the bombing was clear: It was time to take security back into their own hands. Days after the attack, they met with Taliban officials at the mosque and demanded the new government return seized weapons to the 40 Shiite places of worship in Kandahar.

The Taliban agreed to return up to three weapons to every Shiite mosque and offered compensation to families of the victims.

"It is the right not only of the Shia's nation, but the right of all Kandahar's people to be secure," Haji Mullah Abdul Ghafar Mohammadi, 41, the Taliban police chief in Kandahar, said.

But weeks later, the Taliban had still not yet returned the weapons, prompting some Shiite leaders to take matters into their own hands.

As men poured into Bibi Fatima Mosque the following Friday, two men with Kalashnikov rifles manned the entrance while plainclothes security guards kept watch from behind nearby shop counters.

Still, many remained on edge.

At the Rajabi family home, Ezzatullah's brother, Ahmad Zia, planned to go to the mosque, but his mother would not allow it.

"He is the only son I have left," his mother, Sughra, said.



Sen. Dick Durbin, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, which oversees the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, speaks during a hearing in October. TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY

Sen. Durbin urges Garland to sack head of US prisons

By Michael Balsamo
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanded Tuesday that Attorney General Merrick Garland immediately fire the director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons after an Associated Press investigation detailing serious misconduct involving correctional officers.

Sen. Dick Durbin's demand came two days after the AP revealed that more than 100 Bureau of Prisons workers have been arrested, convicted or sentenced for crimes since the start of 2019. The AP investigation also found the agency has turned a blind eye to employees accused of misconduct and has failed to suspend officers who themselves had been arrested for crimes.

Durbin, D-Ill., took particular aim at Director Michael Carvajal, who has been at the center of the agency's myriad crises. Under Carvajal's leadership, the agency has experienced a multitude of crises from the rampant spread

of coronavirus inside prisons and a failed response to the pandemic to dozens of escapes, deaths and critically low staffing levels that have hampered responses to emergencies.

Carvajal was appointed by then-Attorney General William Barr, but Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said recently that she still had confidence in him despite the many serious issues during his tenure. The AP reported in June that senior officials in the Biden administration had been weighing whether to oust him. He is one of the few remaining holdovers from the Trump administration.

Director Carvajal was handpicked by former Attorney General Bill Barr and has overseen a series of mounting crises, including failing to protect BOP staff and inmates from the COVID-19 pandemic, failing to address chronic understaffing, failing to implement the landmark First Step Act, and more," Durbin said in a statement. "It is past time for Attorney General Garland to replace Director Carvajal with a

reform-minded Director who is not a product of the BOP bureaucracy."

Two-thirds of the criminal cases against Justice Department personnel in recent years have involved federal prison workers, who account for less than one-third of the department's workforce. Of the 41 arrests this year, 28 were of BOP employees or contractors.

Separately on Tuesday, the Justice Department's inspector general found that the Bureau of Prisons had stalled the development of more than 30 agency policies because agency officials have been refusing to meet with the union representing prison workers for in-person policy negotiations, as required under a contract.

Blinken goes to Africa in bid to boost US crisis response

By Matthew Lee
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration's competition with China for influence didn't get off to a great start in Africa.

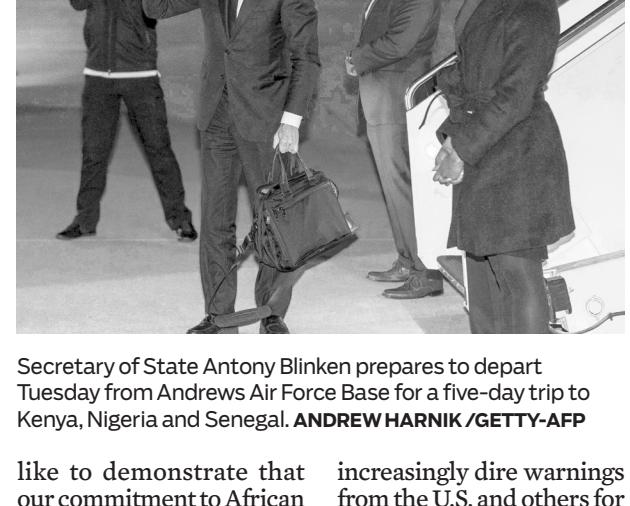
In August, the top U.S. diplomat planned a visit, only to postpone it because of the turmoil in Afghanistan that preoccupied Washington. Three months later and as two significant African crises worsen, Secretary of State Antony Blinken will try again this week to signal the administration's "America is back" message to the continent.

Despite its importance in the U.S.-China rivalry, Africa has often been overshadowed amid more pressing issues in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and even Latin America. Thus, Blinken's trip is aimed in part at raising Washington's profile as a player in regional and international initiatives to restore peace and promote democracy as it competes with China.

That's been a hard sell despite massive U.S. contributions of money and vaccines to fight the pandemic and other diseases. All the while, China is pumping billions into African energy, infrastructure and other projects Washington sees as rip-offs designed to take advantage of developing nations.

More immediately, Blinken is looking to boost thus-far unsuccessful U.S. diplomatic efforts to resolve deepening conflicts in Ethiopia and in Sudan and counter growing insurgencies elsewhere. His tour to Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal follows months of administration attempts to ease both situations that have yet to bear fruit despite frequent lower-level interventions.

"Our intensive diplomacy there is ongoing, and through the trip, we would



Secretary of State Antony Blinken prepares to depart Tuesday from Andrews Air Force Base for a five-day trip to Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal. ANDREW HARNIK/GETTY-AFP

like to demonstrate that our commitment to African partnerships and African solutions to African challenges is enduring and will continue," said Ervin Massinga, a top U.S. diplomat for Africa.

Blinken begins his tour in Kenya, a key player in both neighboring Ethiopia and Sudan and currently a member of the U.N. Security Council. Kenya also has deep interests in Somalia, which has been wracked by violence and instability for decades.

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"Our intensive diplomacy there is ongoing, and through the trip, we would

increasingly dire warnings from the U.S. and others for foreigners to leave.

Those tensions, which some fear could escalate into mass inter-ethnic killings in Africa's second-most populated country, exploded into war last year, with thousands killed, many thousands more detained and millions displaced.

Blinken will underscore those concerns when he meets Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta on Wednesday, according to State Department spokesman Ned Price.

From Kenya, Blinken will travel to Nigeria to meet Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari to discuss West African security arrangements amid a surge in Islamist extremist violence.

Also on tap for Blinken are talks on climate change, clean energy, sustainable development and the pandemic, and a speech on the Biden administration's Africa strategy.

Blinken will wrap up the trip in Dakar, where he'll discuss similar issues with Senegalese President Macky Sall, who will soon take over the chairmanship of the African Union.

WORLD & NATION

International students return to US

Colleges hope to see uptick climb above pre-pandemic levels

**By Collin Binkley
and Philip Marcelo**
Associated Press

BOSTON — International students are returning to U.S. colleges in stronger numbers this year, but the rebound has yet to make up for last year's historic declines as COVID-19 continues to disrupt academic exchange, according to a new survey.

Nationwide, American colleges and universities saw a 4% annual increase in international students this fall, according to survey results released Monday by the Institute of International Education. But that follows a decrease of 15% last year — the steepest decline since the institute began publishing data in 1948.

The upturn is better than many colleges were forecasting over the summer as the delta variant surged. But it also reflects continued obstacles as visa backlogs persist and as some students show reluctance to study abroad during the pandemic.

Universities and U.S. officials hope this year's uptick is the start of a long-term rebound. As international travel ramps up, there's optimism that colleges will see growth past their pre-pandemic levels.

"We expect a surge following the pandemic," Matthew Lussenhop, an acting U.S. assistant secretary of state, told reporters. This year's increase indicates that international students "continue to value a U.S. education and remain



Colleges and universities saw a 4% annual increase in international students this fall. Above, Howard University in Washington.

JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

committed to pursuing studies in the United States," he added.

Overall, 70% of U.S. colleges reported an uptick in international students this fall, while 20% saw decreases and 10% remained level, according to the institute.

That's based on a preliminary survey of more than 800 schools.

At least some of the increase is due to new students who hoped to come to the U.S. last year but delayed their plans because of the pandemic. All told, there was a 68% increase in newly enrolled international students this year, a dramatic increase compared with last year's

decrease of 46%.

For many schools, even a modest upturn is a relief. Over the summer, officials at U.S. universities worried that the delta variant would dash any hopes of a rebound. But for many, that did not come to pass.

In August, U.S. embassies and consulates in India reported that they had issued visas to a record 55,000 students even after starting the process two months late because of COVID-19.

Among those was Kedar Basatwar, who enrolled this fall in a graduate program for business analytics at Northeastern University in Boston, one of the nation's most popular destinations

for foreign students. The 24-year-old from Pune, India, held off applying to American schools at the height of the pandemic because he wanted to make sure he'd be able to attend classes in-person.

"My plan was always to come to the U.S. because the opportunities after getting a masters are so much more," said Basatwar. "Also, getting a U.S. visa is one of the biggest achievements that we consider in India."

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, officials are seeing "a return to normal for our international populations," said Andy Borst, director of undergraduate admissions. The university enrolled

more than 10,000 international students this fall, which nearly offsets a 28% decline from last year.

"We just had this pent-up demand," Borst said. "A lot of Big Ten schools saw increases beyond what we were expecting."

At some schools with big brands overseas, enrollments rebounded past their 2019 figures.

At the University of Rochester in New York, enrollments from abroad surged 70% over 2019 levels, driven by a boom in graduate students, according to school data.

The vast majority of U.S. colleges returned to in-person learning by this fall, but not all international

'I didn't think saving people' at sea a crime

Greece cracks down on migrants forced to help smugglers

By Elena Becatoros
Associated Press

CHIOS, Greece — Among the prison inmates of the Greek island of Chios, three young men from Afghanistan and Somalia are serving dramatically long sentences:

50 years for two of them, a staggering 142 for the third.

But these are not violent criminals, even according to their trial verdicts. They were convicted for steering inflatable dinghies carrying them and other migrants after they say smugglers abandoned them in the Aegean Sea between Turkey and Greece.

"I didn't think saving people is a crime," said Hanad Abdi Mohammad, 28, a soft-spoken Somali charged as a smuggler after arriving in Greece last December and sentenced to 142 years.

Mohammad told journalists and European Parliament lawmakers visiting the three in prison last week that he had no choice but to drive the boat. The smuggler forced him to take over, hitting him in the face and threatening him with a gun before abandoning the dinghy in rough seas. And people's lives were at stake.

Even with hindsight, he said, "I would do it again, as long as I am saving lives."

Critics say the men's cases, as well as prosecutions or threats of criminal proceedings against aid workers, illustrate the expanding arsenal of techniques that authorities in Greece and other countries are using to deter asylum-seekers.

"It's not possible that someone who comes to claim asylum in Greece is threatened with such heavy sentences simply because they were forced, by circumstances or pressure, to take over handling a boat," said Alexandros Georgoulis, one of the lawyers representing the three imprisoned in Chios.

Greek authorities, he said, "are essentially baptizing the smuggled as the smuggler."

Mohammad's journey is

also a stark indication of the chaos asylum-seekers may face as they migrate between two countries long divided by deep-seated mistrust.

Fearing for their lives after the smuggler fled, the nearly three dozen panicked passengers abandoned their quest to reach Greece. Mohammad says he called the Turkish coast guard repeatedly, begging for a rescue. But when it arrived, the Turkish patrol boat circled the migrants' vessel sharply, sending water into the dinghy and gradually pushing it toward Greece.

In the chaos, two women fell overboard and drowned.

The Greek coast guard rescued the survivors, and Mohammad helped other passengers onto the rescue boat. He admitted to having driven the boat after the smuggler left. It didn't cross his mind that would lead to him being prosecuted as a smuggler.

Aid workers and volunteers have also found themselves in the crosshairs of Greek authorities.

In one widely publicized case, Syrian human rights worker Sarah Mardini, a refugee herself, and volunteer Sean Binder were arrested and detained for months in 2018 on suspicion of espionage, money laundering and a litany of other offenses. They deny all charges, and say they were doing nothing more than helping rescue people.

It's not just Greece. According to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Germany, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Spain and Greece have initiated 58 investigations and legal proceedings since 2016 against private entities involved in search and rescue.

"It is preposterous that we should be cast as criminals. I don't accept it. ... It doesn't matter who you are, you don't deserve to drown in the sea," Binder said.

Binder and Mardini go on trial on the island of Lesbos on misdemeanor counts of espionage, forg-

ery and unlawful use of radio frequencies Thursday. They face a maximum eight-year sentence, convertible into a fine. They are still under investigation for felonies which could carry 25 years.

Dimitris Choulis, a lawyer on the island of Samos who frequently represents asylum-seekers and is not involved in Binder's case, thinks criminal prosecutions or threats of prosecution are partly designed to deter nongovernmental organizations from documenting practices such as the illegal summary deportation of migrants before they can apply for asylum.

"The only way to stop humanitarian organizations from watching what is happening in the Aegean is to criminalize rescue," said Choulis, who along with Georgoulis is representing the three men imprisoned in Chios.

Greek officials deny the country performs illegal pushbacks despite mounting indications to the contrary. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis dismissed such claims again last week, saying his government follows a "tough but fair" migration policy.

Most cases involving NGOs are intended more to intimidate than to win convictions, Choulis argues, noting most remain in the investigative phase. Three years after his arrest, Binder has yet to be charged with any of the felonies he's under investigation for.

In July, Greek police announced a felony investigation into 10 people, including four foreign NGO workers, on migrant smuggling allegations. No charges have resulted so far.

The short but often perilous sea crossing from Turkey to nearby Greek islands is a popular route into Europe for people fleeing conflict and poverty in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. To crack down on smuggling, Greece introduced a law in 2014 imposing severe penalties on people smugglers: 10 years imprisonment for

each smuggled person, or 15 years per person if there was danger to life, and life imprisonment if someone died.

But smugglers adapted. Instead of ferrying people themselves, they persuaded or forced their passengers to drive the boats, something borne out by numer-

ous testimonies of arriving asylum seekers. The result has been the convictions of migrants as smugglers.

"Our prisons are full of asylum-seekers who drove a boat," Choulis said. "This is absurd."

Although the sentences are draconian — apart from Mohammad's 142 years,

they could be released after about eight years.

Still, that's a long time to spend incarcerated instead of building a new life.

Zaheri, accompanied by his pregnant wife and young child, and Rasouli arrived in the same boat two years ago. From different parts of Afghanistan, they had never met before. Like in Mohammad's case, the smuggler abandoned their dinghy and the passengers took turns steering them said.

Both were tried as smugglers. They saw their court-appointed lawyer for the first time at their trial, which lasted just a few minutes. The judge spent a minute each asking them questions, Rasouli said.

"For one minute, 50 years," he said. "I cried for one month."

With new lawyers now representing them, Zaheri and Rasouli have an appeal hearing set for March. No appeal hearing date has yet been set for Mohammad.

A prison is reflected on a traffic mirror on the northeastern Aegean island of Chios, Greece. Among the inmates of Chios prison, three young men have embarked on dramatically long sentences for trumped-up crimes, they say. THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/AP

A black and white photograph showing a traffic mirror reflecting a view of a prison complex with high walls and barbed-wire fencing.

Afghans Amir Zaheri and Akif Rasouli, both in their 20s, received 50 years each — actual servable time under Greek law is capped at 20 years, reducible to 12 with good behavior. With prison work counting toward sentence reduction, they could be released after about eight years.

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BUSINESS

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Americans eager to spend despite fears of inflation

October figures have economists optimistic about the holiday shopping season

By Christopher Rugaber
and Anne D'Innocenzo
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many Americans have taken a darker view of the economy as inflation has worsened. Yet, so far, they appear no less willing to spend freely at retailers — an encouraging sign for the crucial holiday shopping season.

Americans ramped up their spending at retail stores and online shops last month. Some of the increase reflected the impact of higher prices, and there were signs that Americans have started to seek out cheaper options.

Yet the October gain the government reported Tuesday was solid enough for most economists to anticipate holiday shopping jumping by a record amount this year.

The data also illustrates a key factor behind the supply chain backups that have left dozens of ships waiting to unload at U.S. ports: Americans are buying a tremendous amount of goods, from appliances to elec-

tronics to furniture. Retail and food service sales have surged 16.3% compared with a year ago. That is a record high excluding several months during the spring when federal stimulus checks caused sharp spikes in spending.

From September to October, retail sales jumped 1.7%, the U.S. Commerce Department said. That was the biggest month-to-month gain since March and was up from a 0.8% increase from August to September.

The increase occurred just as retailers face a host of challenges. Many have had to sharply raise pay to find and keep workers, thereby increasing their labor costs. And some are scrambling amid overwhelmed supply chains to keep their shelves stocked.

"Even with all these problems, we're still on track here for a banner year," said Tim Quinlan, an economist at Wells Fargo.

After adjusting for inflation, Quinlan estimates that retail sales in November and December will be 10% higher than a year earlier, which would be the biggest such gain in seven years.

Last month, sales soared 3.8% at elec-

tronics and appliance stores and 4% among online retailers. Those increases suggested that many Americans are already doing their holiday shopping, possibly to avoid higher prices and supply shortages closer to the holidays.

Tuesday's retail sales figures aren't adjusted for inflation, which rose 0.9% in October, the government said. In some categories, such as gas station sales, a jump in gas prices accounted for nearly all the gain. Gas sales rose 3.9% in October, while gas prices, before seasonal adjustment, rose 3.7% that month, according to the government's inflation report.

Still, two major retailers reported robust sales increases Tuesday.

Walmart and Home Depot reported rising sales and solid profits, although costs rose for both companies because of supply chain disruptions. Walmart said its consolidated gross profit rate took a hit primarily because of increased supply chain costs.

Analysts will be monitoring earnings results from other major retailers like Target and Macy's later this week.

Pfizer deal will share COVID-19 treatment

By Maria Cheng
Associated Press

LONDON — Drugmaker Pfizer Inc. has signed a deal with a U.N.-backed group to allow other manufacturers to make its experimental COVID-19 pill, a move that could make the treatment available to more than half of the world's population.

In a statement issued Tuesday, Pfizer said it would grant a license for the antiviral pill to the Geneva-based Medicines Patent Pool, which would let generic drug companies produce the pill for use in 95 countries, making up about 53% of the world's population.

The deal excludes some large countries that have suffered devastating coronavirus outbreaks. For example, while a Brazilian drug company could get a license to make the pill for export to other countries, the medicine could not be made generically for use in Brazil.

Still, health officials said the fact that the deal was struck even before Pfizer's pill has been authorized anywhere, could help to end the pandemic quicker.

Under the terms of the deal, Pfizer will not receive royalties on sales in low-income countries and will waive royalties on sales in all countries covered by the agreement while COVID-19 remains a public health emergency.

Earlier this month, Pfizer said its pill cut the risk of hospitalization and death by nearly 90% in people with mild to moderate coronavirus infections. Independent experts recommended halting the company's study based on its promising results.

Pfizer said it would ask the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and other regulators to authorize the pill as soon as possible.

Britain authorized Merck's COVID-19 pill earlier this month, and it is pending approval elsewhere.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Industrial output rose 1.6% in Oct.

WASHINGTON — U.S. industrial production rebounded in October as automakers, stung by supply chain problems, posted strong increases, and the adverse effects from a hurricane that struck the nation's energy complex in the Gulf of Mexico faded.

Industrial production rose 1.6% last month after a 1.3% plunge in September, the Federal Reserve reported Tuesday. The gain was double what had been expected.

The September weakness reflected severe shortages of semiconductor chips that contributed to a fall in auto production and the lingering impacts of Hurricane Ida.

Economists cautioned that even with the better-than-expected October gain, production in coming months will be weighed down by continuing supply chain bottlenecks.

UK orders deal for Arm reviewed

LONDON — U.S. technology company NVIDIA's planned \$40 billion takeover of British chip designer Arm Ltd. faces months of delays after the U.K. government asked regulators Tuesday to investigate the national security implications of the deal and its impact on competition.

NVIDIA has agreed to buy Britain's largest technology firm from Japan's Softbank.

Arm's semiconductor technology is widely used in computing devices, including smartphones, cars and other equipment that connect to the internet. While many of the devices that use Arm technology aren't considered critical, the government is concerned about the "security and resiliency" of the broader supply chain, the U.K. government said in a statement.



Delays and cancellations are costing U.S. farmers. Above, the El Dorado Dairy farm Nov. 2 in Ontario, Calif. ADAM PEREZ/THE NEW YORK TIMES

'Catastrophic' export crunch

At many US farms, there's a struggle to get goods abroad before food supplies go bad

By Ana Swanson
The New York Times

It's just 60 miles from El Dorado Dairy in Ontario, California, to the nation's largest container port in Los Angeles. But the farm is having little luck getting its products onto a ship headed for the foreign markets that are crucial to its business.

The farm is part of one of the nation's largest cooperatives, California Dairies Inc., which typically ships 50 million pounds of its milk powder and butter out of ports each month.

But roughly 60% of the company's bookings on outbound vessels have been canceled or deferred in recent months, resulting in about \$45 million in missed revenue per month.

"This is not just a problem; it's not just an inconvenience; it's catastrophic," said Brad Anderson, CEO of California Dairies.

A supply chain crisis for imports has grabbed national headlines and attracted the attention of the Biden administration.

Yet another crisis is also unfolding for

American farm exports.

The same congestion at U.S. ports and shortage of truck drivers that has brought the flow of some goods to a halt has also left farmers struggling to get their cargo abroad and fulfill contracts before food supplies go bad. Ships now take weeks, rather than days, to unload at the ports, and backed-up shippers are so desperate to return to Asia to pick up more goods that they often leave the United States with empty containers rather than wait for American farmers to fill them up.

The National Milk Producers Federation estimates that shipping disruptions have cost the U.S. dairy industry nearly \$1 billion in the first half of the year in terms of higher shipping and inventory costs, lost export volume and price deterioration.

Part of the problem is that shipping companies are able to charge far more to ferry goods from Asia to the United States than vice versa, so they don't want to waste time waiting for a less lucrative load departing from the West Coast.

A survey by the Agriculture Transportation Coalition, which represents exporters, found that 22% of foreign agriculture sales on average were being lost as a result of transportation challenges.

Delays at ports have particularly hurt

products that move in corrugated metal containers, such as cheese, butter, meat, walnuts and cotton.

One company, Talmera USA Inc., which exports milk powder, cheese and dairy ingredients such as lactose, had a shipment delayed so many times that its load finally wound up on the original vessel it was assigned to after the ship had left the port in Seattle, circumnavigated Asia and returned weeks later.

Anderson said that his company's customers were beginning to look to suppliers in Europe, New Zealand and other countries for their purchases, even though the U.S. dairy industry has a reputation for high quality.

"Frankly none of that matters to the customer if we can't get it there," Anderson said.

According to data from Freightos, an online freight marketplace, the cost to ship a 40-foot container from Asia to the U.S. West Coast soared to \$18,730 in November — more than 17 times what it cost to make the reverse trip.

As a result, more than 80% of the 434,000 20-foot containers exported out of the Port of Los Angeles in September were empty — up from about two-thirds in September 2020 and September 2019.

Germany taps brakes on natural gas pipeline

By Melissa Eddy
The New York Times

BERLIN — A German regulator Tuesday suspended its certification of Nord Stream 2, an undersea pipeline intended to transport natural gas directly to Germany from Russia that has been the source of a long-running dispute between Berlin, Washington and Brussels.

The action means that the recently completed pipeline will not begin supplying gas to Germany anytime soon and comes against the backdrop of a politically charged jump in energy prices in Europe and tensions between Moscow and Europe over Belarus and Ukraine.

The news caused a jump in European

natural gas markets, with the price of U.K. natural gas futures soaring more than 9% Tuesday.

In its ruling, Germany's Federal Network Agency, which oversees the country's essential infrastructure, said the decision of the Swiss company that owns the pipeline to set up a subsidiary in Germany meant that more paperwork was required. Once the subsidiary has met the necessary bureaucratic requirements, an evaluation can begin anew.

The German agency does not have the final say in the project, which also requires approval from the European Commission that can only be taken up once the German agency has signed off — meaning Europe could be well into spring before any gas

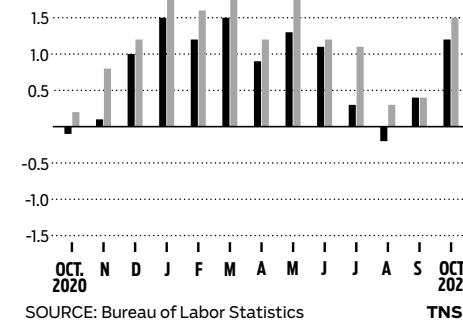
would be flowing.

President Vladimir Putin of Russia has pushed for the German regulators to approve the pipeline as a way of easing Europe's natural gas crisis. But many in Europe suspect the Russian leader has held back natural gas to create pressure to approve the new pipeline.

But when Alexander Lukashenko, the leader of Belarus, threatened to cut off supplies of Russian natural gas that flow through his country to Europe — a retaliation for recent European Union sanctions over fraud in claiming a sweeping reelection victory in August and for harsh suppression of dissent — Putin chastised him, telling Europeans that he had spoken in anger.

US import/export prices

Price index, percentage change from previous month



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

TNS

BUSINESS

Black & Decker officials expect DIY boom to continue

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Do-it-yourself home improvement projects that boomed when homeowners retreated as COVID-19 shut or restricted public places still fuels sales growth and will likely continue in the next couple of years, two executives said Tuesday.

With offices opening only partially and travel resuming slowly, consumers will continue to spend money on their homes, Donald Allan Jr., chief financial officer at Stanley Black & Decker, told

industry analysts during an online conference.

The New Britain tool and equipment storage manufacturer doesn't see homeowners' "reconnection with the home and the garden" fading away soon.

"People will continue to have that be a center for their lives as they look at their professional lives, maybe migrating partially back to the office to some kind of hybrid environment, which is what most companies are thinking about," he said.

Allan said consumer

spending on home improvements will be a "strong catalyst" next year and likely in 2023.

Consumers also will not "shift dramatically away" to travel, which is resuming slowly, Allan said.

The Home Depot, which posted sales in the quarter ended Oct. 31 of \$36.8 billion, up 9.8% from the same period last year, also sees little change in consumer behavior.

A significant shift in spending that many observers expected at the start of the year has not occurred,

Craig Menear, chief executive officer, told industry analysts.

"I say that ... that yes, you've seen things like travel and restaurants open up, but the customers continue to spend in the home-improvement space," he said. "And to date, we have not seen that dramatic shift back that everybody predicted."

Stanley Black & Decker Inc. closed out 2020 with higher revenue and profit, benefiting from a surge in do-it-yourself projects by consumers stuck at home.

Sales of \$4.4 billion in 2020 were up 19%.

However, the manufacturer warned last month that profit will be lower this year due to inflationary pressure and higher supply-chain costs.

Allan said in the last 60 days the supply chain has shown some stability with fewer price increases due to inflationary pressures.

Logistical problems in moving products in and out of ports and loaded onto trucks have tripled the time needed for transportation, he said. What once took 30

days to move products from Asia to the U.S. or Europe now requires about 90 days, he said.

Stanley Black & Decker and its customers have moved products that needed to get to market for Christmas into stores or local warehouses, Allan said. A surge that began last summer as companies acted to get products sooner due to supply chain problems created a massive bottleneck that has eased, he said.

Businesses now must figure out more permanent long-term solutions, he said.

US among countries finding it difficult to quit using coal

By Karl Ritter
Associated Press

GLASGOW, Scotland — In the run-up to the U.N. climate talks in Glasgow that ended last week, host Britain announced one of its goals of the conference was to consign coal to history.

That turned out to be easier said than done.

Government negotiators in Glasgow wrote and rewrote a paragraph that spells out that fighting climate change requires the world to end coal power, along with fossil fuel subsidies. The wording on coal was weakened one last time just before the gavel came down after coal-dependent India insisted on replacing the words "phase out" with "phase down."

Here's a look at the role coal plays in climate change and the energy system, and why it's been so hard to move away from:

Why the focus on coal?

Of the three fossil fuels — coal, oil and natural gas — coal is the biggest climate villain. It's responsible for about 20% of all green-

house gas emissions. It's also a fuel that is relatively easy to replace: Renewable alternatives to coal-fired power have been available for decades. The burning of coal also has other environmental impacts, including air pollution contributing to smog, acid rain and respiratory illnesses.

Who is burning the most coal?

China, the world's most populous country and a manufacturing giant, is the world's biggest coal consumer, followed by India and the United States. In 2019 China produced 4,876 TWh of electricity from coal, almost as much as the rest of the world combined, according to the International Energy Agency. But adjusted for population size the situation is different: Australia has the highest per capita coal emissions among the Group of 20 biggest economies, followed by South Korea, South Africa, the United States and China, according to an analysis by Ember, a climate and energy think tank.

Why are countries still burning coal?

The short answer is coal is cheap and plentiful. But even as renewables become more competitive on price, coal isn't that easy to get rid of. Electricity needs are soaring as the world's population and prosperity increase, and renewables aren't enough to satisfy that growth in demand. The IEA projects that India will need to add a power system the size of the European Union's to meet expected growth in electricity demand in the next 20 years. Coal's role in the power sector has remained relatively stable in the past five decades. IEA statistics show that in 1973 coal's share of global electricity generation was 38%; in 2019 it was 37%.

What was agreed on coal in Glasgow?

Many vulnerable countries, including island nations who fear they will be lost to rising seas, were hoping governments would for the first time in a U.N. climate deal call for the phaseout of coal. But the wording was watered down



Workers prepare to load coal onto a truck Oct. 14 at the Jharia coalfield in Dhanbad, India.
GAUTAM DEY/GETTY-AFP

during the talks because of resistance led by India and in the end the agreement just calls for countries to escalate efforts to "phase down unabated coal power" without setting a timeline.

What is next for coal?

Coal's future looks bleak in the long term despite the vague decision in Glasgow. It's not just driven by climate concerns: In the U.S., natu-

ral gas has been replacing coal for years for economic reasons, though coal has rebounded this year due to a surge in natural gas prices. Since the Paris Agreement in 2015, many countries have set net zero emissions targets, which often require phaseouts of unabated coal, meaning coal-fired plants that aren't fitted with expensive technology that captures emissions. Austria,

Belgium and Sweden have already closed their last coal plants. Britain plans to end coal power by 2024. Announcements made in the run-up to and during the Glasgow conference mean some 370 more coal plants around the world were given a close-by date, according to the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air. The U.S. has not made such a pledge yet.

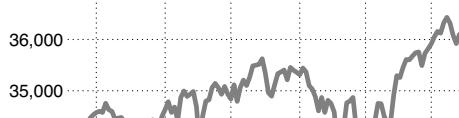
MARKET RUNDOWN

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

DOW
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10-YR T-BOND
1.63% +.01

GOLD
\$1,853.60 -12.50

**Domestic Indexes**

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	36,142.22	+54.77	+18.09%
DOW Trans.	16,791.41	+11.73	+34.26%
DOW Util.	913.25	-6.36	+5.62%
NYSE Comp.	17,302.79	+17.24	+19.13%
Nasdaq Comp.	15,973.86	+120.01	+23.94%
S&P 500	4,700.90	+18.10	+25.15%
S&P 400	2,910.70	+2.78	+26.19%
Wilshire 5000	48,886.59	+203.61	+23.90%
Russell 2000	2,405.02	+4.09	+21.78%

Global Markets			
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.
Frankfurt	16,247.86	+99.22	+.61%
London	7,326.97	-24.89	-.34%
Hong Kong	25,713.78	+322.87	+1.27%
Nikkei	29,808.12	+31.32	.11%

Stocks of Local Interest

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	YTD
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	42.60	-.08	+1909.4	
AT&T Inc (T)	24.66	-.14	-14.3	
Activation Blizzard (ATVI)	66.14	-4.29	-28.8	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	152.45	+6.33	+66.2	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	19.84	-.48	+25.8	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	85.04	+.08	..	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	151.00	+1.00	+13.8	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	50.94	-.09	+12.1	
BIMI Intl Medical (BIMI)	1.00	+.35	-40.1	
Bank of America (BAC)	47.08	+.03	+55.3	
Barnes Group (B)	44.32	+.12	-12.6	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2380.33	-24.68	+6.9	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	59.10	-.52	-4.7	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	92.89	-.60	+36.0	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	21.59	-.71	-3	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	56.26	+.56	+49.2	
Charter Communic (CHTR)	689.18	-.37	+4.2	
Cigna Corp (CI)	217.76	+2.23	+4.6	
Cinedigm Corp (CIDM)	1.56	-.67	+141.9	
Clover Hlth Inv (CLOV)	6.94	-.62	-56.4	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	53.12	-.26	+1.4	
ContextLogic Inc (WISH)	5.07	-.11	-72.2	
Desktop Metal (DM)	6.83	-.19	-60.3	
Disney (DIS)	158.83	+.40	-12.3	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	129.92	+.87	+42.1	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	25.49	+.33	+26.1	
Eversource Energy (ES)	83.37	-.13	-3.6	
Ford Motor (F)	19.79	-.07	+125.6	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	10.59	-.18	-5.2	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	198.74	-2.33	+33.3	
Gen Electric (GE)	103.35	-3.32	+19.9	
Hartford Fv (HIG)	71.27	-1.06	+45.5	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	221.37	-1.10	+4.1	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	18.39	-.11	+38.9	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	24.03	+.40	+41.8	
Intel Corp (INTC)	50.61	+.29	+1.6	
Kaman (KAMN)	39.11	-.81	-31.5	
Keycorp (KEY)	23.92	...	+45.8	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	73.58	-1.02	+46.3	
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	55.52	+10.64	+106.9	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGMT)	45.65	-.17	+44.9	
Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)	94.79	+.08	+14.4	
Meten Holding Group (METX)	.47	-.06	-76.8	
MetLife Inc (MET)	63.41	-.74	+35.1	
Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)	23.64	-.87	-7.0	

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OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

The economy really is that bad

By Ramesh Ponnuru

Bloomberg Opinion

Commentators friendly to the president couldn't understand it. The economy was expanding. Unemployment was falling. But the public was unhappy about the economy and the president's popularity kept slipping.

That's the way things looked in 2006 to a lot of Republicans, and they concluded that the problem was that the "Bush boom" was "the greatest story never told."

Now the bafflement has switched parties. Paul Krugman wrote in the New York Times that "the economy has been booming this year" but that gloomy news coverage has affected people's mood about it.

Neil Irwin, in the same newspaper, called it a "great contradiction" of today's economy: "Americans are, by many measures, in a better financial position than they have been in many years. They also believe the economy is in terrible shape."

Economists may think inflation produces both winners and losers, he continued, but most people aren't seeing

it that way.

If this is really a puzzle, it's a frequently recurring one. It happened during Barack Obama's presidency, too. In 2014, a large majority of Americans thought the economy was in recession — a view that reporters pointed out was "flat-out wrong."

Americans have, in fact, been pessimistic about the economy for most of the last two decades. Gallup's "Economic Confidence Index" went negative after the dot-com boom went bust in 2000, and did not register sustained positive readings until the pre-pandemic part of President Donald Trump's administration.

It might, then, be more instructive to examine what our last two periods of widespread happiness about the economy — throughout 1998 to 2000, and from mid-2018 to early 2020 — had in common. Both were times when the standard of living for most people was rising, and had been rising for a while.

Those conditions weren't present in 2006 or 2014, even though the economy was growing and unemployment falling. Households in the middle of the income-distribution scale made less in

2014 than they did in 2000, after adjusting for inflation.

More of the years in between saw declines than gains. Americans had not seen such a prolonged period of disappointment since this data series began in 1953. The public's unhappiness was not irrational.

It's not irrational now, either. Income fell in 2020 as the pandemic hit.

Even if living standards were rising again, positive trends would have to continue before people began to register satisfaction. But living standards aren't yet rising, anyway.

Wages and benefits have been moving up smartly, but only in nominal terms. As the economics researchers Jason Furman and Wilson Powell III pointed out in an analysis for the Petersen Institute, total compensation is 0.6% below its December 2019 level after adjusting for inflation. Irwin wrote that economists see rising wages and rising prices as "two sides of the same coin."

For most people, though, the net effect in today's economy is that the coins they are getting don't go as far.

It stands to reason that changes in the

real value of wages would have a bigger effect on public sentiment than changes in the unemployment rate. The number of people paying more at the pump and the grocery store is much larger than the number of people who have gotten new jobs.

One complication in this story is that people's financial conditions have improved, thanks to the extensive transfer payments that the federal government implemented during the pandemic. It may be, though, that people don't see those transfers as substitutes for a continuing stream of income that they feel are earning.

The simplest explanation for why the public thinks it's a bad economy is that, for most people, it's a bad economy. We don't need to come up with a theory about the effects of modern partisanship on views of the business cycle, any more than we needed such a theory in 2006 or 2014. We need only consult the great democratic maxim: The foot knows best where the shoe pinches.

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Can 1980s Reaganism rise again?



Ross Douthat

For a long time, longer than I've held this job, my advice to Republican politicians and policymakers has been consistent: *It isn't the 1970s or 1980s anymore*. The ideas associated with Ronald Reagan's ascent to power, forged in an era of Cold War and high crime rates, stagflation and sexual revolution, were responses to crises and challenges decades in the past, and the GOP was doomed to cycles of failure until it devised an agenda more fitted to the times.

The year 2021, though, is the first time a reasonable Republican could listen to my pitch and answer, *But what if history is repeating itself, and we're back in Reagan's world?*

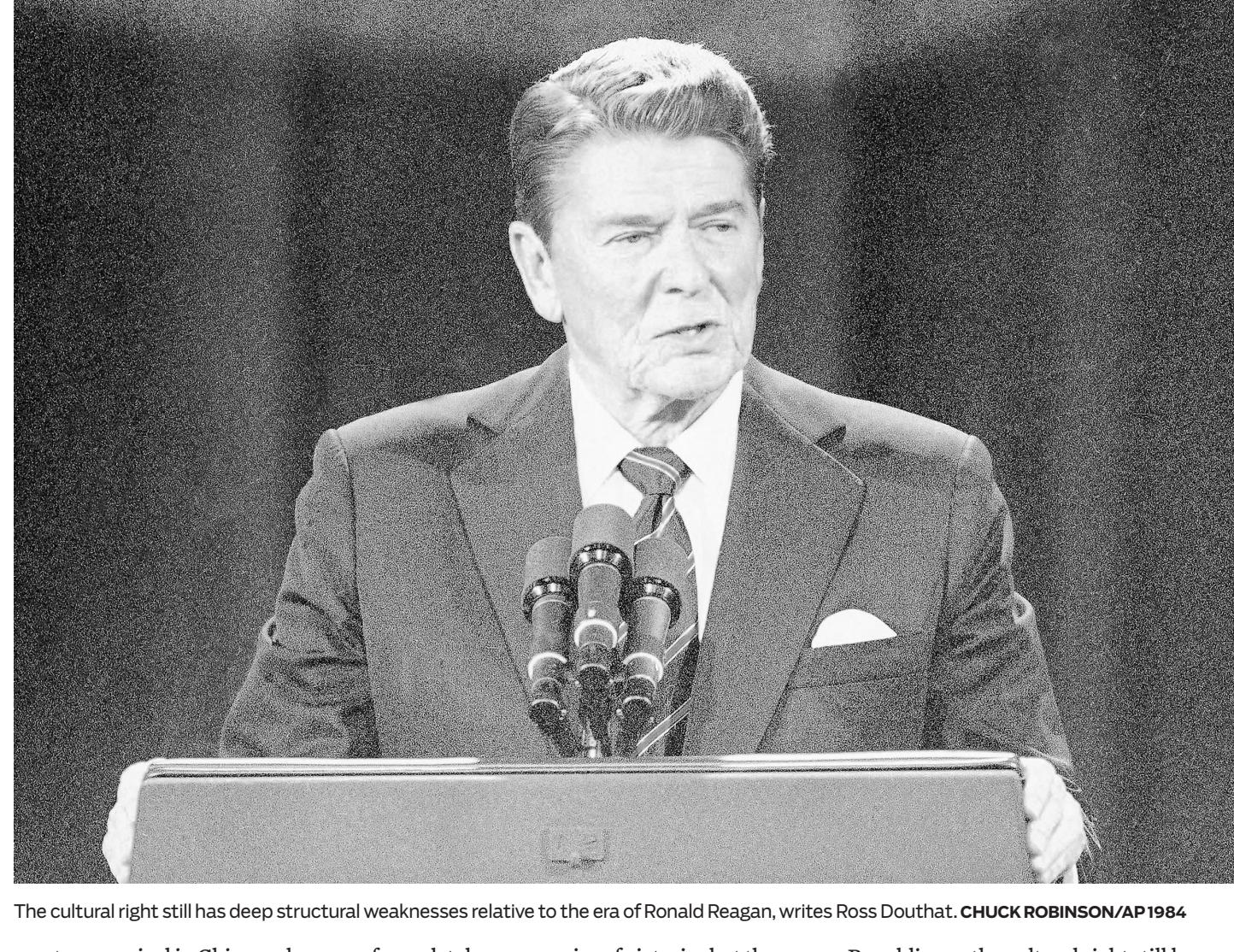
First, inflation has returned at last. Since early in the Obama era, Republicans have consistently warned that Democratic spending (or the Federal Reserve's expansion of the money supply) would bring back 1970s-style inflation rates, and time and again those predictions turned out wrong.

But the combination of the Biden administration's oversize burst of stimulus and not-quite-post-COVID-19 supply chain issues have finally generated real inflationary conditions — not the conspiratorial Shadowstats version but the real thing, the kind that palpably affects prices and paychecks and politics itself.

Second, crime is a major political issue once again. After a horrendous spike in the murder rate last year, the data for 2021 so far shows a much lower increase — but that's still an increase *on top* of 2020's surge, so the overall homicide rate continues to climb.

Meanwhile, it's easy to notice indicators of collapsing public authority that evoke the "no radio" signs that used to adorn New York City cars — from The San Francisco Chronicle tweeting recently that the city's residents were debating whether to "tolerate burglaries as a part of city living, and focus on barricading homes," to a brazen incident of alleged large-scale shoplifting in Oxford, Connecticut, not that far from my own home, that became a viral video.

Third, for the first time since the Reagan era, the United States has a true



The cultural right still has deep structural weaknesses relative to the era of Ronald Reagan, writes Ross Douthat. CHUCK ROBINSON/AP 1984

great power rival in China and a zone of Cold War-style brinkmanship around Taiwan.

Post-Reagan, Republican hawks were always looking for the next organizing threat for U.S. foreign policy, but their attempt to cast Islamic fundamentalism as a new Red Menace led only to disaster and the evaporation of the GOP's traditional advantage on foreign policy.

But the Biden administration's stumbling withdrawal from Afghanistan (however correct and even gutsy the strategic decision) and the backdrop of growing Chinese power have evoked the Carter era — the Iran hostage crisis, the fear of Soviet expansionism — more than anything that happened under Bill Clinton or Barack Obama.

Finally, the vaulting ambitions of cultural progressivism, the march of activist ideas through elite institutions and public bureaucracies, has given Republicans a chance to regain the culture war advantages that they lost during the socially liberal years between Clinton's impeachment and the Supreme Court's establishment of a right to same-sex marriage.

As in the 1970s, the cultural left has

lately won a series of victories but then has run way ahead of them, creating a gap between its vanguard ideas and public opinion as well as a clear opportunity — just ask Glenn Youngkin — for conservative counterattack.

Of course, history doesn't really repeat itself so neatly. Both the inflation spike and the murder surge have been mediated by pandemic conditions in ways that make them more likely to recede more rapidly than their antecedents in the 1970s and 1980s. (My own suspicion is that the norm of masking in liberal cities has facilitated crime, which is another reason for blue America to seek a more rapid exit from its COVID-19 rules.)

Meanwhile, the comparison to Carter-era foreign policy is at the very least inexact; the new Cold War doesn't look much like the old one, given the murky nature of the ideological confrontation and the uncertain place China occupies in the American imagination, while President Joe Biden's tactical stumble in Afghanistan may well fade from public memory rather than becoming a presidency-defining story like the Iran hostage crisis.

Finally, whatever culture war advantage the Great Awakening has handed to

Republicans, the cultural right still has deep structural weaknesses relative to the Reagan era, given the decline of religious affiliation and family formation since the 1980s and the growth of progressive ideological influence not just in Hollywood or the academy but in Silicon Valley and corporate America writ large.

And the aftermath of a Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade might (depending on the anti-abortion movement's response) send the public opinion pendulum swinging back toward social liberalism.

All of which is to say that Republicans would be foolish to assume, and Democrats wrong to fear, that the dynamics of 2021 will prevail throughout the 2020s, delivering a simple replay of the rise of Reaganism.

But for the electoral landscape of this specific moment, and the politics of 2022, the GOP has advantages unlike any in my pundit's lifetime — a chance to win, and maybe win big, by eschewing the unpleasant work of adaptation and simply playing those 1980s hits again.

Douthat is a columnist for The New York Times.

Ice cream battle heats up in Gaza and the West Bank

By Eli Lake

Bloomberg Opinion

Since Ben & Jerry's announced in July that it would no longer sell its ice cream in Gaza and the West Bank, its British owner, Unilever PLC, has sought to do damage control. Now Unilever faces an unlikely player in international statecraft: U.S. state attorneys general.

Unilever Chief Executive Officer Alan Jope has said it rejects the Boycott, Divest and Sanctions movement against Israel. Unilever has also announced that it would find a new arrangement for Ben & Jerry's to remain in Israel, but not in the occupied territories, after the contract with its current Ben & Jerry's distributor expires next year. Unilever more recently has promised to continue to sell its many supermarket brands in Israel.

None of this has satisfied U.S. state attorneys general.

In Washington last week, representatives of 11 Republican state attorney general offices gathered on the sidelines of the Federalist Society conference to discuss strategies for using their powers to target Iranian banks, Chinese corporations — and the participation of a Unilever subsidiary in the BDS movement.

U.S. states are increasingly asserting themselves in foreign policy. They can target banks in their states that have corresponding relationships with banks that do business with Iran, for example. Or they can divest their multibillion-dollar pension funds from funds that invest in Chinese companies that are not subject to U.S. laws.

This strategy is now being used to target Unilever.

Richard Goldberg helped draft one of the first anti-BDS laws, in Illinois in 2015, when he was the legislative affairs director for former Gov. Bruce Rauner. He told the meeting of AGs that 33 states now have

laws that either require pension funds to divest from or deny contracts to companies that boycott Israel.

Goldberg also said that the attorneys general should demand straight answers from Unilever on its relationship with the independent board that oversees Ben & Jerry's. "They have pledged that Ben & Jerry's has said they will find a way to still work in Israel, even though its independent board chair has said it won't," he told me in an interview. "It opens up a lot of questions as to the truthfulness about their statements to the market."

The movement to target Unilever is already gaining momentum. The New York state comptroller's office announced last month that the state's common retirement fund would restrict its holdings of Unilever. It owned \$111 million worth of Unilever stock at the time of the announcement. The pension funds of Arizona, Florida and New Jersey have also begun selling Unile-

ver stock.

And other states are considering doing so. "Unilever is on our radar," said Todd Rokita, the attorney general of Indiana, who was at last week's meeting. He also told me, without going into specifics, that he appreciated how state government actions can affect the share prices of companies that "do not share our values."

In many ways the momentum to punish corporations that participate in BDS is a mirror of the woke capital movement, which targets corporations that harm the environment or have unfair labor practices. Both movements generate a lot of praise and criticism on social media. But they also show that, when activists and officials are organized, they can have an impact on corporate America that goes beyond Twitter or Facebook.

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Nicha Emir
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Yvette Marin
curtains, bike boxes.
Unit 694
Debra Duquette
Furniture and household.

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com Purchases must be paid with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction.

Extra Space Storage may refuse cash and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

11/17/2021 11/24/21 7084833

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF HARTFORD PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER NOTICE. The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford issued a request for responses seeking applicants for the award of project-based vouchers on August 26, 2021.

At the regularly scheduled HACH board meeting on November 9, 2021 the HACH board awarded a total of thirty-one (31) vouchers to two applicants. My Sister's Place, Inc. received a conditional award of nineteen (19) vouchers and Penrose, LLC received a conditional award of twelve (12) vouchers.

11/17/2021 11/24/21 7087097

LEGAL SERVICES - BOND COUNSEL

All proposals must be submitted on forms and in accordance with specifications supplied by the Town of Wethersfield Purchasing Office, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109. Specification packages may be downloaded at: https://wethersfieldct.gov/finance/open-bids

Proposals will be received until 2:00 p.m. local time on December 8, 2021

11/17/2021 11/24/21 7087761

Request for Quotation #02-2125

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch invites qualified contractors to submit quotations for the repair of existing Garrett walk-through and hand-held metal detectors as well as for the purchase of new equipment on an as needed basis statewide.

Quotations must be received by 11:30 A.M. on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2021. Late bids will not be accepted.

VENDORS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO BID.

Bid package may be downloaded from the Judicial Branch Purchasing Services web site below.

www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/

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11/17/21 708731

State of Connecticut

Department of Children and Families

The Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) is accepting applications for the provision of a mentoring support program for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer or Questioned, Intersex, and Assigned (LGBTQIA+) youth. The program will focus on developing positive, long-term, safe, and affirming relationships between youth and caring adults who serve as trained mentors.

The Contractor will maintain a diverse pool of mentors who have attributes and qualities in common with the adolescents served including but not limited to gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity. Emphasis will be placed on helping the youth strengthen skills needed to thrive as they launch into adulthood. Emphasis will be placed on helping youth succeed and excel at jobs and if needed, locate, and maintain housing. An additional component of this program will include Recovery Support Specialists for those youth identified and in need of further support regarding their mental health and substance abuse.

The mandatory bidders' conference is scheduled to be held virtually on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 9 am. Deadline for submission of proposals is Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 3:00 PM, local time at DCF Central Office in Hartford. The electronic copy of the proposal must be emailed to the Official Agency Contact for this procurement. The Request for Proposals is available in electronic format on the State Contracting Portal at: https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTS/Source/ and on the Department's website at: https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Contract-Management/Home or from the Department's Official Contact, Stacie Albert via e-mail at Stacie.Albert@ct.gov.

11/17/2021 11/24/21 7087530

Bolton Planning & Zoning Commission Legal Notice

The Bolton Planning & Zoning Commission, at its November 10, 2021 regular meeting, approved Stacey Winter's Site Plan appl. for a home occupation for a hair salon (Stacey's Place) at 2 Anthony Rd as presented.

Dated at Bolton, CT this 11th day of November, 2021.

Adam Teller
P&Z Chairman

11/17/2021 11/24/21 7087488

Connecticut

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch, Purchasing Services Office, invites qualified organizations or individuals to submit proposals for the following program services:

RFP #4200
ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES STATEWIDE

Request for Proposal documents outlining procedures for submittal of proposals will be available online at www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSAL IS:

BEFORE 2:30 PM - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021

VENDORS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION AND NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 33-887 of the Connecticut General Statutes, that LOMBARDI ENGINEERING, INC., a Connecticut corporation having a place of business in the Town of Hartford, County of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, has voted to dissolve itself in pursuance to a Plan of Liquidation adopted by the Shareholders and Directors on October 26, 2021.

A certificate of dissolution has been filed with the Secretary of the State as required by law.

All unknown creditors, if any, of said corporation are warned to present written claims to Attorney William J. Dakin, Esq., 45 Hartford Turnpike, PO. Box 3811, Vernon, Connecticut 06066, on or before January 3, 2022 from the date of publication of this Notice, or otherwise same claims will be forever barred as provided by Section 33-887 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Written notice of the claim shall include the amount of the claim and a brief description upon which the claim is based.

Dated at Vernon, Connecticut, this 11th day of November 2021.

LOMBARDI ENGINEERING, INC.

By: William J. Dakin
Kahan, Kerensky & Caposella, LLP
Its Attorney
11/17/21 7087504

TOWN OF VERNON

Project No.: L146-0002: Replacement of Dart Hill Road over Hockanum River (Bridge No. 03936)

Town Contract #2075 INVITATION TO BID

The Town of Vernon, Connecticut, is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the Replacement of Dart Hill Road over Hockanum River (Bridge No. 03936). The proposed improvement includes replacing the existing bridge with a precast deck unit, upgrading the bridge rail and approach girder, realignment of roadway, utility relocations, and installation of storm drainage.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting with potential bidders on site at the intersection of Dart Hill Road and Thrall Road, Vernon, Connecticut, on November 30, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Minimum Federal and State Wage Rates are required for this project.

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of 90 days after the actual date of opening. The allowed contract time for work under this project is 210 days.

Bid security in the form of a certified check or a bid bond, on form furnished by the Town of Vernon for 10% of the amount of the bid, must accompany each proposal. The Town of Vernon reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Performance and Payment Bonds, in the full amount of the Contract price, will be required of the successful bidder.

This contract is subject to state contract compliance requirements, including nondiscrimination statutes and set-asides requirements. State law requires a minimum of twenty-five (25%) percent of the state-funded portion of the contract be set aside for award to subcontractors holding current certification from the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services. The contractor must demonstrate good faith effort to meet the 25% set-aside goals.

Plans and Specifications for the project may be examined and/or obtained at Advanced Reprographics, 50 Corporate Avenue, Plainville, CT 06062, (860) 410-1020 and by visiting the Advanced Reprographics website www.advancedrepro.net. Prospective bidders should access the "Planroom" on the website and go to the "Public Jobs" area; no log in information is necessary. Plans and specifications may be picked up at the Advanced Reprographics office. Plans and specifications may also be ordered by calling the Advanced Reprographics number listed above. Bidders are responsible for all printing costs and shipping costs, as applicable.

Copies of the Legal Notice and RFP are also available online at the Town of Vernon website at https://www.vernon-ct.gov/government/bids-and-contracts with reference to Contract #2075 and at the Department of Administrative Services website at https://www.vernon-ct.gov/DAS/CTS/Source/CTS/Source.

All questions about the proposals should be directed to David Smith, Town Engineer, by email only at DSmith@vernon-ct.gov, later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 7, 2021. Answers to all received questions shall be posted by Thursday, December 9, 2021, on the Town's website under the bid section at http://www.vernonct.gov/legal-notices with reference to Contract #2075-11/16/2021. It is the sole responsibility of respondents to review any or all addendum or question responses.

Saled bids for the construction of the project will be received by the Town of Vernon at the office of the Town Administrator 14 Park Place third floor, Vernon, CT 06066 until 11 a.m., December 14, 2021, after which time no further bids will be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS. Bids should be clearly marked "Bid Submission – Dart Hill Road Bridge #2075." Received bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Town Council Chambers at 11:00 a.m. on December 14, 2

OBITUARIES BY TOWN**AVON**

Margaret S. Fortin

BERLIN

Robert F. Mccrann Jr.

BOLTON

Dorothy M. Fish

BRANFORD

Angela Orsene

BRISTOL

Maria Krawiec

CHESHIRE

Angela Orsene

COVENTRY

Leopold F. Sans

EAST HAMPTON

Thomas N. Markham

EAST HARTFORD

M. Jeanne Sciarra

ENFIELD

Shirley A. Larson

M. Jeanne Sciarra

ESSEX

George J. Reichman

FARMINGTON

Fred E. Kobylarz

Thomas Swistro

HARTFORD

Shirley A. Larson

Rev. Dr. Wayne D.

Pokorny

Leopold F. Sans

Thomas Swistro

MERIDEN

M. Jeanne Sciarra

MIDDLETON

George C. Battle, Jr.*

Sheila Guerin

NEW BRITAIN

Jennifer Benaitis

Maria Krawiec

Robert F. Mccrann Jr.

John Petruni, Jr.*

Bartolomeo Pifferi

Thomas Swistro

NEW HARTFORD

Jennifer Benaitis

Warren D. Chambers Jr.*

Shirley A. Larson

Thomas Swistro

NEWINGTON

John J. Golda

Shirley A. Larson

NIANTIC

Mary Anne

Martin

PLAINVILLE

Joseph Pelletier*

ROCKY HILL

Rose Aiello

Joseph P. Grayeb

SOMERS

M. Jeanne Sciarra

SOUTHBURY

Bartolomeo Pifferi

SUFFIELD

Daniel S. Flynn

M. Jeanne Sciarra

VERNON

Leopold F. Sans

WEST HARTFORD

William J. Devine, Jr.

Donald B. Himes

Mary Anne

Martin

WEST HAVEN

Rev. Dr. Wayne D.

Pokorny

WETHERSFIELD

Rose Aiello

Theresa Morano

Rev. Dr. Wayne D.

Pokorny

WINDSOR LOCKS

Shirley A. Larson

Gerald A. Quagliaroli

David L. Roe

OUT OF STATE

Patricia A. O'Connor

Lakeville, CT

* Denotes name listing only.

Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES**Aiello, Rose (Pope)**

Rose (Pope) Aiello, 96 of Wethersfield, passed away peacefully on Saturday November 13, 2021. She was the devoted wife of the late Amedeo Aiello for 64 years. Rose was born in Hartford on October 31, 1925, one of six children, to Anthony and Catherine (Carchidi) Pope. She graduated from Hartford Public High School in 1944 and worked at John Hancock

Insurance Company until she started her family. Her passion for reading led her to work as Assistant to the Director of Wethersfield Public Library for 25 years.

Rose was a deeply religious person and long-time parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Wethersfield. Her family was the most important thing to her and she enjoyed cooking, especially hosting enormous Thanksgiving feasts and baking her famous pizzelles. Rose was beautiful, intelligent, strong, determined and caring and will be greatly missed by her family and close friends.

She is survived by her daughters and their husbands; Nancy and Dennis Clair of Rocky Hill and Joan and Dr. Anthony Colandrea of Winter Garden, FL; five grandchildren: Megan Aldridge, her husband Justin, and their children Hadley, Claire, William and Charles of Hingham, MA; Dr. Katherine Colandrea Mikiewicz, her husband Adam, and their daughter Grace of Kensington; Melissa Colandrea and her daughter Chloe of Rocky Hill. She also leaves her two grandsons, Brendan Clair and John Colandrea, both of Rocky Hill. She also leaves behind a sister, Helen "Bunny" Tomaino of Wethersfield as well as many beloved nieces, nephews, and friends. Rose was predeceased by her sisters, Josephine Livingston and Angeline Flanigan and her brothers, Salvatore and Carmelo Pope.

We would like to extend our gratitude and thanks to the wonderful, caring staff at the Atrium of Rocky Hill for the wonderful care Rose received. She loved them all. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN. 38105.

Friends may call on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 34 Beaver Road, Wethersfield, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial celebrating Rose's life will be held on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 10:00 AM in Holy Trinity Church, 53 Capital Avenue, Hartford, CT. Burial will follow in Village Cemetery, 1 Marsh Street Wethersfield. To extend condolences, please visit [Farleysullivan.com](http://www.farleysullivan.com).

Farley-Sullivan

Funeral Home

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Benaitis, Jennifer (White)**

Jennifer "Jenn" (White) Benaitis, 51, died peacefully on Saturday, November 13th, 2021 holding the hand of her husband, Jeffrey Benaitis, after a courageous 21-year battle with cancer. She had a beautiful life that was cut way too short. Here is a piece of her story.

Jenn was born on November 16th, 1969 in Hartford, CT to parents Paul and Kathy White. She grew up in New Hartford, CT, where she decided to later stay and raise her family. She raised her three children, Olivia M Piana, Taylor Benaitis, and Jack Benaitis, with her husband of 20 years. She was a lover of her dogs, a friend to so many, and a Pottery Barn fanatic.

Even from a young age, she was a fiery spirit. She was a stubborn fighter who was forced to fight a battle that no one should have to. She carried an indomitable strength in her that she worked hard to instill in her children, and to be here for them. While she could no longer win her fight, she stayed as long as her body would allow. She spent her remaining days surrounded by her family in the comfort of her home, and we hope, knowing how loved she was.

Jenn was a gift to this world, and she will be terribly missed. Her wish was that there would not be a service, as a courtesy to her family. There will be an online memorial available, when you can share a memory or note of sympathy for the family: jenniferbenaitis.com. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain, is assisting the family with arrangements.

CARLSON

FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**OBITUARIES****Fish, Dorothy Margaret (Turkington)**

Dorothy Margaret Turkington Fish, 101, of Bolton, beloved wife of the late William Edwin Fish passed from this life on Friday, November 12, 2021, in her home of 71 years after many years of loving care provided by her youngest son Russell and his family. She was the daughter of the late Alexander Turkington and Margaret Hunniford, both immigrants from Northern Ireland in the 1880s. Dorothy was born September 27, 1920, in Manchester CT, joining Elsie, Lester and her older brother Elmore who took on a parental role when their father passed away when Dorothy was only 11. She lived in New York during her husband's service in the First Army during WWII, then moved back to Manchester before settling in Bolton in 1950 in the house where she raised her 6 sons Richard, Donald, Gordon, Douglas, Randall, and Russell. Her widowed mother lived with her family for 17 years. Dorothy was employed by Connecticut General, as a proofreader, at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft and at Manchester Church of the Nazarene where she served her Lord Jesus Christ faithfully teaching Sunday School for over 40 years, most recently to her Senior Adult class who she cherished, reminding them that "you're never too old to serve God." She was equally loved by all the children known as "The Candy Lady" always ready with a treat and a loving smile.

Dorothy was a great homemaker, baker, mother to her boys and her house and heart was always open to everyone. She is survived by her 5 living sons with Gordon, preceding her in death this February, their wives as well as 19 grandchildren and many great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. A calling hour will be held at the Church of the Nazarene, 218 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06042 from 11:30 am-12:30 pm on Friday, November 19, 2021, with service to follow at 12:30. Following the service will be a burial in the East Cemetery, 240 East Center St., Manchester. To view the live stream of the service or to leave a memory or message of condolence, please visit www.holmeswatkins.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Fortin, Margaret S.**

Margaret S. Fortin, 81, of Secret Lake in Avon, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT. Born in Waterville, ME on December 12, 1939, she was the daughter of the late Verne and Evelyn (Fitzmorris) Hurd. Margaret worked for many years as a press operator at CT. Spring & Stamping prior to her retirement. Margaret loved spending time with her family, especially playing board games with them. She also enjoyed puzzles and trips to the CT shorelines. She is survived by her partner of 20 years, Charles LaFlamme of Avon; her sons; Daniel J. Fortin of Barkhamsted and Jason V. Fortin and his wife Gretchen of Fayetteville, GA; her daughter; Diana Lynn Fortin of Bristol, her grandchildren; Jeremy Fortin, Samantha Fortin, Amanda (Fortin) Arnold, Heidi Jones and Gavin Fortin, and her many great-grandchildren, her brother; Lawrence Hurd of Southington and her sisters; Rachel Raven of Unity, ME and Patricia Hurd Roy of Massachusetts. She was predeceased by her husband, Fernand Joseph Fortin, her son Thomas Fortin and many beloved sisters and brothers. Margaret's family will receive friends on Saturday, November 20, 2021, from 10-1130AM at the Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon, CT 06001. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, donations in Margaret's memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 200 Executive Blvd Suite #4b, Southington, CT 06489 or <https://act.alz.org/ct>. For condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON

Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Grayeb, Joseph P.**

Joseph P. Grayeb, former Chief of Rocky Hill Volunteer Ambulance Association and law enforcement officer with the Ellington Police Department, passed suddenly on Friday, November 12, 2021. When asked by anyone how he was, Joe typically smiled and responded, "living the dream." For Joe, this meant serving and protecting others. Born May 11, 1967, Joe grew up in Oakville and attended Kaynor Tech in Waterbury before moving to Rocky Hill in 1983 with his parents and siblings. He graduated as an auto mechanic from Vinal Technical High School and started working at Valenti Chevrolet before joining the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles as a fleet mechanic. While ensuring state vehicles operated safely, he graduated from the Connecticut Police Academy and became a Department of Motor Vehicles Inspector. For 29 years, Joe ensured trucks and buses on Connecticut highways were safely operated. He studied, became a certified EMT and joined the RHVA in 1987. For 35 years at the RHVA, Joe volunteered thousands of hours, often scheduled 40 hours per week and sleeping at the ambulance headquarters, ready to respond calmly and compassionately to emergency calls. During his nine years as Chief, Joe's tireless efforts put the members first and ensured the association was always prepared to provide the best care for Rocky Hill residents. One of the qualities of Joe's life was putting the needs of everyone else before himself. For the last four years, Joe co-coordinated the Santa Express deliveries to children in town with his dear friends Karen Halligan and Drew O'Connor. In addition to his full-time work with the state and volunteering with RHVA, Joe worked countless hours for 22 years as a police officer, protecting and helping residents in Ellington. His humorous, calm, and approachable way of speaking with people made him a favorite in the community. Always ready to listen, Joe encouraged, guided, and mentored those interested in contributing and helping others in a positive way. His impact on this world was also felt at home. From his earliest days at the RHVA, Joe met and married the love of his life Vivian (Allen). Together for more than 30 years, they raised their children Jason and Kristen. They joyfully saw their family grow with the arrival of Kris' son Blake, as well as Jay's marriage to Kelly (Tynan) and the birth of their son, Cameron. He is also survived by his mother Madeleine Grayeb of Wethersfield, his sister Cate Evans of South Windsor, his brothers Mike Grayeb of Larchmont, NY, Glen Grayeb and wife Sarah of Darien, three nephews and a niece: Joe and Phil Evans and Emma and Jack Grayeb. He was predeceased by his father, Edward G. Grayeb. He also leaves behind his best friends, Cheryl DeWalt and Dave Motowidlok. He was the son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, uncle, friend, teacher, role model, leader, and public servant who could be relied on for help, for humor, and for unending concern for others. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 am on Friday, November 19th in St. Josephine Bakhita Church, St. James Campus, 767 Elm Street, Rocky Hill. Burial will be private. Family and friends are invited to the Giuliano-Sagarno Funeral Home at Brooklawn, 511 Brook St. Rocky Hill on Thursday, November 18th from 3-6 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Heart Association or the charity of your choice are appreciated. For online guestbook, please visit www.Brooklawnfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Guerin, Shelia**

Sheila (Tipping) Guerin, 75, of Middletown beloved wife of John Guerin, passed Sunday November 14, 2021 surrounded by family. She was born in Oakland, CA to Anita Mackay and the late William Tipping. Sheila received a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the Boston College School of Education later getting her Masters degree from Central Connecticut State University. Sheila taught high school math in North Attleboro, MA and for 32 years in Wethersfield until she retired in 2013. She was an avid gardener who loved spending time with her flowers. Sheila was a committed member of St Pius X Church parish community in Middletown: teaching religious education, being a Eucharistic Minister, participating in the prayer shawl committee and numerous other activities. It gave her great joy to spend time with and share stories about her family. Besides her husband and mother Sheila is survived by her daughter Cheryl and husband David Copeland of MD; her two sons Carl and wife Nicole Guerin of MA, and Ken and wife Heather Guerin of PA; her siblings Elaine O'Reilly of MA, and Michael and wife Janine Tipping of MA; her five

OBITUARIES

Morano, Theresa



Theresa Morano, 90, of Wethersfield, passed away peacefully Monday morning, November 15, 2021 in her home surrounded by her family. Born on May 30, 1931 in Hartford, Theresa spent much of her early years spending time between CT and Sherbrooke, Quebec. She was proud of her French Canadian heritage and was fluent in French, a skill she enjoyed using to converse with her French-Canadian family including her cousin, Andre, and his children. She raised her three children, Russell, Ken, and Carol in Wethersfield.

A dedicated employee, Theresa held several administrative assistant positions ranging from the private sector to working for the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Known for her caring nature and charismatic personality, Theresa maintained many friendships throughout the years including her life-long friend, Gail, who was a great source of joy and comradery for her.

After a long and rewarding career, Theresa retired to Greenwich with her late husband Mike Morano, and his caretaker and good friend, Gerard. She could typically be found playing cards with her friends, relaxing by the pool, or enjoying the fine Italian cuisine commonly associated with Fairfield County. After her late husband passed, Theresa moved to Wethersfield where she lived with her son, Russell, her daughter-in-law, Grace, and their three children, Sarah, Patti, and Andrew. Theresa's "retirement" was short lived as she quickly found herself acting as a full time grandmother, always going above and beyond for her family.

While managing family, work, and friends occupied most of her time, Theresa never lost sight of her desire to give back to the community. She combined her love of knitting and charity work by making scarves and hats to donate to South Park Inn Homeless Shelter. She also supported the CT Humane Society and St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Theresa was known for many things in this life – a loving mother and memere, a wonderful cook, an enthusiastic conversationalist, a devout Catholic, a super-fan of all things Frank Sinatra and Boston Red Sox, and a world class scrabble player. Above all though, Theresa was a caring person with a strong faith. Her family and friends will miss her beyond words.

Theresa was predeceased by her parents, Albert and Eva Demers as well as her husband, Michael Morano. She is survived by her son and daughter in law, Russ and Grace Morin; her son Kenneth and his wife Mary Jo; and her daughter Carol and her husband John. Additionally, she leaves behind many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as her brother, Gerard Demers. We are thankful for Hartford HealthCare Hospice as well as her caregivers/angels-on-earth, Helina and Judy.

Services will be private per Theresa's wishes. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Theresa's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. The D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, Wethersfield has been entrusted with the arrangements. To share a memory of Theresa with her family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Himes, Donald Bennett



Donald Bennett Himes, 82, of West Hartford, died on November 10, 2021 after a short illness.

The son of Harold Theodore Himes and Marjorie Bennett Himes, Don was born in St. Louis, Missouri, grew up in Kirkwood, and moved East to attend Wesleyan University where he earned a B.A. in Fine Art and Architecture. After graduation Don enlisted in the US Army and served in the Army Security Agency (ASA) as a Specialist, putting his spirit of service, keen intellect, and design skills to good ends. He'd go on to receive an MBA from the University of Hartford and was at the forefront of the technological revolution, working with IT and large-scale application development. Don worked at Aetna Life and Casualty, leaving after thirty years to become a consultant for Metagroup, and later The Nolan Company.

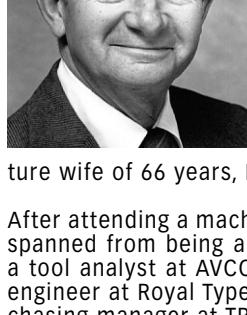
A talented painter and jazz enthusiast, Don was a man of honor, quiet humor, and deep faith. He volunteered for Foodshare and at UConn Health with members of the Old Guard, an organization of retired professional men dedicated to fellowship, service, and education in the West Hartford area.

Don leaves behind his beloved wife of 46 years, Maureen O. Himes; his daughter Jennifer Himes Macionus, her husband Michael and their daughter Elsa, of Tolland, CT; stepdaughter Laird Borrelli-Persson, her husband Carl and their son Axel, of Old Greenwich, CT; stepson M. Carter Borrelli, his wife Anna, and their children Julia and Nico of East Hampton, CT; as well as his sister Marjorie O. Dozier of Ladue, MO and brothers Charles Edwin Himes of St. Louis MO and Harold T. Himes of San Antonio, TX, and their families.

Charitable donations may be made in Don's memory to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association, or any organization that helps to care for others. Online expressions of sympathy may be shared at <https://www.ahernfuneralhome.com>.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Kobylarz, Fred E



Fred Kobylarz was born February 02, 1925 in Passaic, NJ to Polish immigrants Anthony and Anna (Puk) Kobylarz. Fred's adolescent years instilled in him a strong moral fabric that would guide him throughout his lifetime.

After proudly serving in the US Navy during World War Two, Fred attended Alliance College where he met his future wife of 66 years, Dorothy (Stets).

After attending a machinists training school, his career spanned from being a tool designer at Curtiss-Wright, a tool analyst at AVCO Lycoming and a manufacturing engineer at Royal Typewriter before becoming the purchasing manager at TRUMPF in Farmington.

Fred enjoyed travel, golf and time spent at the beach. He was particularly proud of the sizable vegetable garden he tended in his backyard.

His marriage to Dorothy, who predeceased him in 2018, was a true partnership of love, caring and support for each other and their children Brian Kobylarz of Norwich, CT, Jeffrey Kobylarz of New York City, NY and Diane Kobylarz of Farmington, CT.

Fred shared a special bond with his sister Ruth Rabel, her husband Steve of Gaffney, South Carolina and his niece Mary Ann Huber of Swansboro, North Carolina.

He passed away November 9, 2021 at the age of 96. Services will be private for immediate family members. Please consider performing an act of kindness in his memory.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Sans, Leopold F.



Leopold Sans was born to Wilhelm and Anna Sans on February 15, 1928 in Mannheim, Germany. He married Marianne Steinmetz in 1950, and with their two children, Angelika and Michael, immigrated to America in 1955. Settling first in Hartford, where sons Matthias and Leopold arrived, the family then established themselves in Vernon, CT.

A master church decorator, he formed his own company and became a pivotal force in the restoration of the Mark Twain House in Hartford. Thereafter, his talents were in demand and his clientele included, among others, Andy Warhol, Mick Jagger, Pierre Berge and Barbara Streisand. He loved playing violin, traveling, camping, boating, hosting parties, telling stories - and the UCONN women's basketball team.

He was predeceased by his loving wife, Marianne, and eldest son, Michael. He is survived by his daughter Angelika, and two sons Matthias and Leopold, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A wake will be held at Coventry-Pietras Funeral Home at 2665 Boston Turnpike in Coventry, CT on Friday, November 19th from 4-7 pm. Church services will be held at Saint Joseph's Church at 33 West Street in Vernon, CT on Saturday, November 20th at 10 am.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Golda, John J



John Joseph Golda, 85, of Newington, CT passed away peacefully at his home with his daughter and son by his side on Sunday, October 24, 2021. John was born in New Bedford, MA on September 22, 1936 and was the son of the late John and Louise (Tomchefskey) Golda. He attended New Bedford High School and then the University of Massachusetts

where he starred on the football team and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering. Upon graduation he served in the United States Air Force for two years before he attended the Wharton School of Business where he earned a Masters of Business Administration. Upon graduation from Wharton he served in the United States Navy. He retired from the Navy in April of 1995 as a Commander. John was a communicant of Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Newington. He was avid Boston sports fan, especially his beloved Red Sox. When not watching his sports, John enjoyed replicating his years in the military through his fighter jet models.

He enjoyed reading his comics and completing crossword puzzles. John is survived by his daughter, Deborah Vynalek of Middletown and John "Daniel" Golda of Newington.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, Ryan and Melissa Vynalek; his nieces Diane Golda Niles, Susan Golda Furtado and nephew, Wayne Golda as well as many cousins. He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara Naughton Golda; his brothers, Bill and Al Golda and his sister, Julia Golda. Both his children, Deb and Danny, are and continue to be eternally grateful that "you" and Mom chose us.

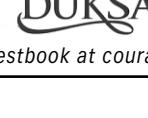
Friends may call from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 18th at D'Angelo Funeral Home, 22 South Main Street, Middletown. A military burial at the Veterans' Cemetery in Middletown will be at the convenience of the family.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Krawiec, Maria



Maria Krawiec, 94 of New Britain, passed away peacefully on Friday, November 12, 2021 surrounded by her loving family. She was the beloved wife of the late Wawrzyniec Krawiec. She was born in Staniszewskie, Poland, the daughter of the late Marcin & Agnieszka Bakaj. She retired from St. Lucian Home, New Britain after over 10 years of employment. She loved her family, her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother she is survived by her children: Walter Krawiec and his wife Teresa of Bristol, CT, Ted Krawiec and his wife Ewa of Bristol, CT, Anna Ozga and her husband Henryk of Poland, Jozef Krawiec of New Britain, CT, Stanislaw Krawiec and his wife Danuta of Poland and Jan Krawiec and his wife Maria of New Britain, CT; her grandchildren and great grandchildren in the US and Poland. She was predeceased by her two sons: Mieczyslaw Krawiec and Edward Krawiec. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Thursday, November 18 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St., New Britain. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 AM at Sacred Heart Church, New Britain on Friday, November 19. She will be laid to rest in Sacred Heart Cemetery. To share a message of sympathy with her family, please visit us at www.duksa.net



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

O'Connor, Patricia Ann

Lakeville, CT – Patricia Ann (Harrity) O'Connor passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at her home in Lakeville, surrounded by her family. Patricia was the loving wife of the late Owen Joseph O'Connor. Patricia was born December 23, 1930, in Wilkes-Barre, PA, daughter of the late Jeremiah and Catherine (Craven) Harrity. After graduating from high school in Bayonne, NJ, Pat completed a dual degree in mathematics and political science from Notre Dame College, Staten Island, NY. She worked for the Atomic Energy Commission (the precursor to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission) in New York City during college, and after graduating, began a job with New York Life Insurance, where she ran the "machine room." The machine room consisted of ENIAC computers, the first of their kind. It was at New York Life, where she met her future husband Owen (Gene) O'Connor. Pat and Gene were married June 25, 1955. The couple settled in Bellrose, NY, and started a family of nine children, later moving to Garden City, NY in 1969. Upon Gene's retirement from the NYPD in 1977, the family moved to the country in Salisbury, CT. When the youngest of their children were old enough, Pat went back to work as a bank teller at the National Iron Bank in Lakeville, where she enjoyed working until her retirement in 1995. In 2000, she sold the property on Smith Hill and moved into town to enjoy retired life surrounded by her children and many grandchildren. Pat's greatest love was her family. From making baby blankets to after-school snacks, she loved every one of her grandchildren, many of whom would walk to "Grammy's house" after school, getting help with homework in addition to snacks. Pat created beautiful gardens wherever she lived and continued to correspond with people throughout her life the old-fashioned way, by sending thoughtful handwritten notes, often accompanied by a clipping of something she had read that she knew would be of interest. She always welcomed reading a new book, making a new recipe, hearing about new adventures of her every-growing family. Pat was famous in the St. Mary's coffee circle for her Irish Soda Bread.

Patricia is survived by her children Martin O'Connor, Lakeville; Michael O'Connor (Patricia) of North Berwick, ME; Eileen McGee (Myles) of East Hartford, CT; William O'Connor of Geneva, IL; John O'Connor (Lisa) of Unionville, CT; Cathleen Reid of Lakeville, CT; Kevin O'Connor (Vanessa) of Lakeville, CT and Rory O'Connor of Lakeville, CT. She is also survived by her grandchildren Caroline, Owen, Anna, Christopher, Abigail, Timothy, Katherine, Jack, Jessica, Amanda, Connor, Michael, Amelia, Calvin, Rory Patrick, Sean, Emily, Molly, Eion, Mackenzie, Tyler, Quincy, Maddie and Chase, and her great grandchildren: Nora, Maggie, June, Alice, Savannah and Zoey. She was predeceased by son Timothy.

A celebration of life gathering will be held at the Inn at Iron Masters, Lakeville, CT on Monday November 22, 2021 from 4pm-7pm. Funeral services will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church (St. Martin of Tours) in Lakeville, CT on Tuesday November 23, 2021 at 11am, with burial to follow at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Cobble Rd, Salisbury, CT.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Mary's Cemetery of Salisbury, PO Box 897, Canaan, CT 06018. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of the arrangements.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Flynn, Daniel S.



Daniel S. Flynn, Jr., 85, of Suffield, died on Sunday, November 14, 2021. He was the son of Daniel S. Flynn, Sr. and Agnes (Quinn) Flynn and was born on April 21, 1936 in Hartford, Connecticut. Dan was the beloved husband of Patricia (Curran) Flynn. He was employed by John Hancock Financial Services for many years and enjoyed golfing, photography, and traveling and spent thirteen happy years residing in Florida. His greatest pleasure was spending time with his family. With his first wife, Marilyn Stratton, he moved from Hartford and raised his family in Windsor Locks. He leaves his seven children, Joseph Flynn (wife Sarah) of Windsor Locks, Kathleen King (husband Bill) of Granby, Daniel Flynn, III of Middletown, Thomas Flynn of Windsor, Robert Flynn of Arlington, Virginia, Michael Flynn (wife Regina) of Windsor Locks, and Patrick Flynn of Milford. In addition to his wife Patricia, he leaves his brother William Flynn (wife Susan) in Vermont. He was predeceased by his loving sister, Noreen Galvin. He was the proud grandfather of twelve grandchildren: Rachel King, Kaitlin Evoy, William King, Kerry Stango, Kelly Bowman, Michaela Flynn, Gillian Flynn, Emily Flynn, Kiera Flynn, Shannon Flynn, R. Bennett Flynn, and Galen Flynn. He leaves four grandchildren – Eliana King, Claire Evoy, Luca Stango, and Margaret Evoy. He also leaves many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. His family will receive friends on Friday, November 19, 2021 from 4pm to 7pm at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Street, Enfield, Connecticut. Family and friends will gather on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 11am for a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, South Elm Street, Windsor Locks, Connecticut. Burial will follow at Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 30 East 33rd Street, New York, NY 10016. To leave online condolences please visit leete-stevens.com

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FARRELL

FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Devine, Jr., William J. "Bill"

William J. "Bill" Devine, Jr. 72, of West Hartford, beloved husband of Janet (Iverson) Devine, passed away Saturday, November 13, 2021 at Hartford Hospital. He was born in Hartford, son of the late William J. Devine, Sr. and Rose (Pasquene) Devine and had lived in West Hartford for many years. Bill graduated Xavier High School, Middletown, and was a U.S. Army Veteran having served in Vietnam. He worked at the Aetna Insurance Co. for over 20 years and most recently worked for the U.S. Postal service as a rural carrier in Rocky Hill for many years before retiring. A funeral service with full military honors will be held Friday, November 19th, 1:00 PM at Village Cemetery, Marsh St. Old Wethersfield. A funeral procession will begin Friday at 12:30 PM at the Dillon Baxter Funeral Home, 1276 Berlin Tpke. Wethersfield. To share a memory with the family, please www.dillonbaxter.com

Dillon-Baxter

FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Orsene, Angela (Polastri)**

Angela Polastri Orsene, of Cheshire, CT, passed away Saturday November 13, 2021, at her home. She was the beloved wife of 67 years to Joseph Orsene. Angela was born February 10, 1931 in Milford, MA, daughter of the late Louis and Gina Ezzati Polastri, and graduated from Branford High School in 1949. Angela majored in French and education at Southern Connecticut State University where she received her teaching degree. She began her teaching career in New Haven before moving onto Southington High School where she taught French and was the head of the Language Arts Department before retiring. She touched countless student's lives with her compassion and empathy. Angela was a passionate and extremely talented in the arts. She painted gorgeous scenery, portraits and still life in pastels that were on display and won awards at numerous art shows, including the Funky Monkey Café and Gallery and the "Annual Visual Arts Exhibit" sponsored by the Cheshire Arts League. She was also known for her stunning themed Christmas trees and elegant singing voice that brought beautiful light and peace to her family and friends at the holidays. Angela was a sweet, kind and caring woman who will be greatly missed. She was predeceased by her sisters, Diana Anderson and Doris Polastri, and her nephew Peter Anderson. Her legacy continues with her Son Mark S. Orsene; her niece, Carol Miesau; niece-in-law, Deborah Anderson; grandnephews and nieces, Michael, Daniel, Christian, Caroline, Erin and Anna Katherine; and great-grandnephews and nieces, Jackson, Cody, Adriana, Winston and Evelyn. Relatives and friends are invited to a Mass of Christian Burial Thursday morning at 11:00 in St. John Bosco Parish at St. Mary Church, 731 Main Street, Branford. Burial will follow in St. Agnes Cemetery. There are no calling hours. For directions and online memorial see www.wsclancy.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Sciarra, M. Jeanne (St. Arnould)**

M. Jeanne (St. Arnould) Sciarra, 98, of Suffield, former longtime resident of East Hartford, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 8, 2021, at St. Francis Hospital. She was the loving wife of the late Louis Sciarra Jr. Jeanne was born on September 15, 1923 and raised in Meriden. She was the only daughter of eight children born to the late George J. and Perley (Ouellette) St. Arnould. She attended Meriden schools, graduating from Meriden High School, Class of 1941. Jeanne started her working career during World War II as a secretary for the American Red Cross, Meriden Chapter, where she was employed for 13 years. She found new employment at the Aetna Life & Casualty Insurance Company, where she worked for 25 years, prior to retiring in 1991, as a Pension Analyst. While there, she enjoyed an active social life and was a member of the Aetna 39ers.

Jeanne was a faithful communicant of St. Christopher Church in East Hartford, as well as a member of the church Senior and Walking Club's. In addition, she hosted a small Christian Community at her home. Other activities she enjoyed included putting jigsaw puzzles together, solving word searches, playing bingo, reading, and spending time with friends. Her most cherished moments were those spent with her loving family. She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by her son, John L. Sciarra and his wife Lisa of Enfield; her daughter, Nancy L. Salvati and her husband Anthony of Somers, her four adored grandchildren, Christine, Michael, and Matthew Salvati, and Elizabeth Sciarra. Along with her husband and parents, Jeanne was predeceased by seven brothers, George (Joseph), William Francis (infant 7 months), Albert, Raymond, Wilbrod (Wilbert), Norman and Ernest St. Arnould. The family would like to express their thanks to the caring staff of Suffield By The River and to Dr. Arthur Skalski, MD of Enfield.

There are no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial celebrating Jeanne's life will be held on Friday, November 19, at 10 a.m. in St. Christopher Church of St. Edmund Campion Parish, 538 Brewer Street, East Hartford. Burial will follow the Mass in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery (Section M), 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield. At the family's request, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Edmund Campion Parish. To extend online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.desopoeh.com.

**D'Esopo**

Funeral Chapel

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Martin, Mary Anne (Sullivan)**

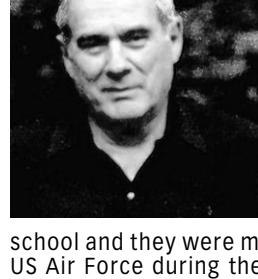
Mary Anne Martin (Sullivan), 84, passed peacefully on November 11, 2021. Born May 29, 1937 in Hartford, Connecticut, she was raised in West Hartford by her parents, the late Edward Cyril and Florence Grace Sullivan. Mary Anne graduated from Hall High School in West Hartford, Colby Junior College in New London, New Hampshire and earned her nursing degree from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Hartford, CT. Mary Anne married the love of her life, Robert Harry Martin, on April 11, 1964. A loving and generous wife, mother, sister, daughter, friend and nurse, Mary Anne leaves a legacy of caring for others. Mary Anne loved gardening, decorating, floral arranging and making everywhere she was a more beautiful place to be. She spent summers at her beloved Black Point Beach and was always happiest when near the water.

Mary Anne is survived by her son Robert H. Martin, Jr. and wife Karen of Fairfield, CT, daughter Mary Elizabeth Hibson and husband Robert of Old Saybrook, CT, son David E. Martin and wife Therese of Salt Lake City, UT and daughter Jean Marie Nist and husband Jacob of Tacoma, WA, as well as her treasured grandchildren, Ben, Emily, Grace, Luke, Tyler, and Sean. Mary Anne is also survived by her sister-in-law Marguerite Martin and her wife Helen of Huntingdon, PA. Mary Anne is preceded in death by her loving husband of 50 years, Robert Harry Martin, and her sister, Joan Sullivan.

Funeral services will be Friday, November 19, 2021 with the celebration of her Mass of Christian Burial at 10 am at Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony Church, 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mary Anne's memory to House of Bread: <http://hobread.org/giving>. Directions and online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Molloy Funeral Home505 FARMINGTON AVENUE
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06119Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**OBITUARIES****Markham, Thomas N.**

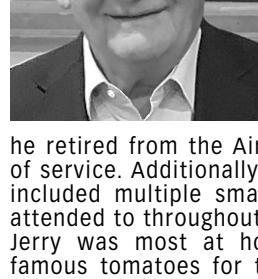
Thomas Markham, M.D., who died on August 19, 2021, will be buried at 11am on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at the State Veterans Cemetery located at 317 Bow Lane Middletown, CT 06457. Friends and family are welcome to join us as we honor his life and service.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Pifferi, Bartolomeo**

Bartolomeo (Ben) Pifferi, 89 of Southington passed away peacefully November 14, 2021. Ben was born December 1, 1931 in New Britain, the son of Vincenzo and Liberta (Morizio) Pifferi. Ben was the youngest of four children. He grew up in New Britain and attended local schools. He met his wife, Ersilia "Ceil" Stella in high

school and they were married in 1952. Ben served in the US Air Force during the Korean War and was stationed in Okinawa. Ben graduated from Central Connecticut State and spent most of his career as a math teacher at E.C. Goodwin Technical School in New Britain. Ben and Ceil loved to travel and over the years travelled around the world. Ben is predeceased by his wife Ersilia (Stella) Pifferi; sisters Mary (Pifferi) Bianca, Anna (Pifferi) Warzocha; and brother Peter Pifferi. Ben is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Paul and Sherilyn Pifferi of Farmington; grandson and wife Stephen and Joyce Pifferi of Avon; granddaughter and husband Emily (Pifferi) and Steve DeBiase of Simsbury; great-grandson Nathan DeBiase; and sister-in-law Matilda (Stella) Orsi of New Britain. He is also survived by nieces Debbie Bianca and partner John Acey of Rocky Hill; Valerie Liistro of New Britain; nephews Thomas Bianca and wife Vivian of Colorado Springs CO.; Robert Orsi and husband Thomas McConnell of New Britain; and several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 4 PM until 7 PM at New Britain Memorial Sagarino Funeral Home, 444 Farmington Ave., New Britain, CT 06053. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 10:30 AM at St. Ann's Church, 47 Clark St., New Britain, CT 06051. A procession will assemble from 9:30 AM to 10 AM at the funeral home prior to the Mass. Burial will immediately follow Mass in St. Mary Cemetery, 1141 Stanley St., New Britain.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Quagliaroli, Gerald A.**

Gerald A. Quagliaroli, 80, beloved husband of Sandy (Sheridan) Quagliaroli, passed away on Sunday, November 14, 2021 at St. Francis Hospital with his family by his side. He was born on February 25, 1941 at 30 Church Street in Windsor Locks to Frank and Frances (Garini) Quagliaroli. Known to his friends as Jerry,

he retired from the Air National Guard after 37 years of service. Additionally, his lifetime of dedicated work included multiple small business ventures which he attended to throughout his life.

Jerry was most at home in nature, cultivating his famous tomatoes for the family to enjoy throughout the year and foraging and drying mushrooms for the risottos and sautes that brought so much enjoyment to family meals. Meticulous in his habits, his routines were a constant – morning feedings of his pigeons, evening rounds to check in on business and dropping in on friends. These traditions brought peace to Jerry and joy to his friends and loved ones. He is remembered not only for his physical strength, as someone whose hands could fix anything but for his strength of character: gentle, wise and assured, whose reliability never wavered.

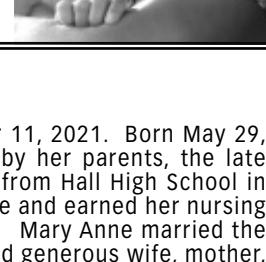
Jerry was passionate about the Windsor Locks community where he spent his life. He was a faithful parishioner of Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish, St. Mary's Church in Windsor Locks. He was most proud of his family. He is survived by wife, Sandra, and his three children; James Quagliaroli of Windsor Locks, Beth Gill and her husband Michael of Duxbury, MA and Trina Quagliaroli and her husband Michael Harris of New York City; his grandchildren, Michael and Olivia Gill, James and Lia Quagliaroli and Owen Harris; his nephew, Carl Quagliaroli; his niece, Hope Ray and his sister-in-law, Faith Quagliaroli. He was predeceased by his brother Neil Quagliaroli in 2020. Relatives and friends may join the family on Friday, November 19, 2021 from 3:00-6:00pm at Windsor Locks Funeral Home, 441 Spring Street, Windsor Locks, CT 06096. (Face masks are required.) A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish, St. Mary's Church Windsor Locks on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 10:00 am (Please meet directly at church). Burial will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery, Windsor Locks. Memorial contributions may be made to Mary, Gate of Heaven Parish, St. Mary's Church. For online condolences and memorial contributions, please visit www.leetestevens.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Stories live on.****Tell theirs.**

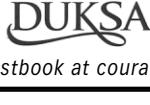
Share your loved one's story.
placeanad.courant.com/obituaries

Hartford Courant

***** media group

In partnership with
Legacy.com**Pokorny, Rev. Dr. Wayne D.**

Rev. Dr. Wayne D. Pokorny, 83, of Hartford, died on Friday, November 12, 2021. Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial is serving the family. To view his life story and for service details, please visit us at www.duksa.net.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Swistro, Thomas**

Thomas Swistro, 67, of New Britain, died unexpectedly on Tuesday November 2nd, 2021. Son of John and Helen (McGrath) Swistro. Born in New Britain, raised in Newington, he was a long-time resident of Newington and Farmington. He loved to spend his days with his dog Murphy, driving to Rhode Island for lobster rolls. If you ever needed a good

place to eat, he was the man to ask! He knew all the hidden gems.

There is no denying that he had the gift of gab, and you were lucky to call him a friend. He was a master wood worker and always had a hand in many projects, including remodeling 3 houses.

Tom was a total gear head and owned over 100 cars throughout his life. He hand-built several hotrods including his 1936 International Woodie. He would travel the east coast attending many NHRA events with his sons and loved ones.

He got his sons involved in off road motorcycle racing at an early age and created a lifetime of memories with them traveling the east coast and competing for decades. Tom cherished these trips and made many lifelong friendships.

Tom graduated with a Master's degree from CCSU and was a dedicated Industrial Arts teacher for the Hartford school system for over 30 years. In his younger years, he was an EMT for Newington Volunteer Ambulance.

A true family man, Tom leaves behind his two sons, TJ and Nick and daughter-in-laws Merin and Corey Swistro. He is survived by his beloved girlfriend Geralyn Paradis, his former wife of 34 years Kerry Swistro, his sister Mariann Elf and his two nephews Steven Elf and Christopher Evans. He was a proud Poppie to his 5 grandchildren, Julian, Charlotte, Tripp, Lucy and Fallon. Everyone who remembers Tom is asked to celebrate his life in their own way. Having a big bonfire and raising some nips of Baileys would certainly be his style! He "always tried his best" and his best made a lasting impression on all of our hearts.

A friend to so many, he will be greatly missed by all. Family and friends may call on Friday, November 19, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Duksa Family Funeral Home, at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Funeral services for Thomas will be private and he will be lovingly laid to rest in St. Thomas Cemetery, West Springfield, MA., at a later date. To share a memory with Thomas's family, please visit us at www.duksa.net

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Reichman, George Joseph**

With great sadness but also with deep and lasting gratitude for a long life well lived, we announce the passing of George Joseph Reichman of Essex, Connecticut, on November 15, 2021. Born in Jamaica, New York on April 9, 1942, his family moved to Connecticut in 1950 and eventually settled in Essex, CT. George graduated from

the Essex High School and started a career in Security which eventually evolved into developing his own discrete service firm catering to the specialized needs of his clients both in Residential and Commercial applications. He dealt with and performed and/or arranged/coordinated a diverse gamut of responding to his clients' needs in a host of applications, including but not limited to property maintenance, home health care, grounds upkeep, security, house sitting, project supervision, chauffeuring and catering to events and parties, as well as responding to his clients' specialized and unique needs. He developed an excellent reputation of confidentiality and personalized care that was a hallmark in the industry. He had many loyal clients that stayed with him for over 25 years. Usually, the only reason that he lost a client was due to retirement and moving out of state or passing away.

George was devoted Catholic and a member of Our Lady of Sorrow Church in Essex. George became a member of the Local Essex Knights of Columbus Council in May of 2002. This eventually evolved into him being invited and joined the Elite K of C Color Corp of which he was an active participant. George took to heart the Knights of Columbus four principle standards of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. He lived his life accordingly and was a beloved member of the order. His participation in the various K of C events over the years and the great Comradery that he had with his fellow members brought him great Joy and Fulfillment. Over the years George was the recipient of multiple awards, citations and certificates of appreciation for his devoted service. He was always ready with a cheerful smile to participate in the needs of the order. His passing leaves a sorrowful hole in the hearts and minds of his fellow members.

He is survived by Ethel Maynard, his sister who had three children of her own, a daughter Monica and two sons Tom and Jeff Evans. Monica is married to Richard Schenk and they have a daughter Emily (George's Grandniece) who recently married Adam Heath. Visitation will be held at the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home, 34 Main Street in Centerbrook on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 5:00PM to 7:00PM.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for George on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 10:00AM at Saint John Church, 161 Main Street in Old Saybrook. All are welcome to attend either or both services. Burial will follow in Saint Joseph Cemetery, Middlesex Avenue in Chester. Gifts in George's memory can be made to "The Knights of Columbus Seminary Support Fund", C/O Saint John's Roman Catholic Church, 161 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT. 06475-2367, or The Knights of Columbus Council in Essex, CT. To share a memory of George or send a condolence to his family please visit www.rwwfh.com. Arrangements are in the care of the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home in Centerbrook.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**IN MEMORIAM****In Loving Memory Of
MARION M BICKFORD**

05/21/1934-11/17/1988

Mom- Has been 30 years since we lost you. Always missing you, thanks for being the great mom that you were. Love-Greg, Diane, Jeremy, & Brian

Hartford Courant

CONNECTICUT

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ELECTION 2021

Lawsuit filed in tight mayoral race

After losing recount, West Haven Republican candidate sues, citing irregularities over absentee ballots

By Seamus McAvoy

Hartford Courant

Barry Lee Cohen, the West Haven Republican who narrowly lost the city's mayoral race upon a recount, has filed a lawsuit against election officials claiming there were mistakes in the vote count and irregularities among absentee ballots.

Mayor Nancy Rossi, City Clerk Patricia Horvath and other election officials are named in the civil complaint, which was filed in New Haven Superior Court.

The complaint calls on the court to either void all absentee ballots and declare Cohen the winner of the election, or to void the absentee ballots and order a new special election under court supervision.

Following a recount, it was determined that Rossi won reelection with 4,275 votes to Cohen's 4,242, a difference of 32 votes, according to Head Moderator George Chambrelli. The initial vote tally favored Rossi by 29 votes.

But Cohen received more of

the in-person votes, with 3,937 to Rossi's 3,865. Rossi won more of the 702 absentee votes, with 393 to Cohen's 297. Other ballots were left blank or contained write-ins.

In the complaint, Cohen and his legal team allege the West Haven absentee ballot moderator and ballot counters failed to properly seal and wrap the envelopes or endorse each envelope with their names, voting district and time of the count, pursuant to state law.

The complaint further alleges that Sherri Lepper, Democratic Registrar of Voters, entered the

central counting room about half an hour before polls closed with "a number of" unopened absentee ballots that had not been endorsed by the municipal clerk.

The ballots were not immediately rejected, according to the document. About 45 minutes later, Lepper allegedly returned to the room and stated she had been advised via email by the Connecticut Secretary of State's office to count the unendorsed ballots.

According to the complaint, all of the absentee ballots in question cast votes for Democratic candi-

dates.

The complaint also cites an example of a voter who voted by absentee ballot with a listed address in New Haven but a mailing address in Hamden. It alleges that the voter has not lived in West Haven since 2017, according to a search on an unspecified online service, and therefore should not have been able to participate in the election.

The contentious West Haven mayoral race took on new heat

Turn to Election, Page 2

Schools chief wins top honor

West Hartford's Tom Moore named state's Superintendent of Year

By Susan Dunne

Hartford Courant

WEST HARTFORD — West Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Tom Moore was named the state's 2021 Superintendent of the Year by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, CAPSS announced.

Moore said he was "overwhelmed" by the honor, which was announced on Nov. 12 at the Mystic Marriott at the annual convention of CAPSS and the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

"I feel like it's validation not so much for me but for the work so many people in West Hartford are trying to do for our kids," he said.

Moore has led the district since 2014. Before that, he was assistant superintendent, principal of Conard High School — which Moore

his two children attended — and a history-social studies education specialist.

In addition to nurturing students, Moore has focused on training teachers. He headed up the social studies department for the teacher training program Alternate Route to Certification. "If there was a lawyer who decided to be a history teacher, or like that, instead of a long program at a college, it was a truncated six-month program to learn the ins and outs of teaching, an accelerated path to certification for people who had unique life experiences," Moore said.

And for students, he's supported Future Educators of Diversity, a club at Conard and Hall high schools. "Right now there are about 50 kids involved, from all backgrounds, who show interest in teaching," Moore said. "We partner with universities, including Central and UConn. We promise these kids that if they do become a teacher they are guar-



Gov. Ned Lamont hoists a turkey over his head at City Place during "Turkey Tuesday," part of an effort to help provide food to more than 50,000 Connecticut families on Thanksgiving. Also pictured is Al Marino of Connecticut Foodshare. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

'Tremendous' support amid growing demand

'Turkey Tuesday' helps make a dent in Foodshare's need for Thanksgiving

By Rebecca Lurye

Hartford Courant

As Foodshare works to collect 50,000 turkeys ahead of Thanksgiving, the nonprofit organization that fights hunger across Connecticut is also preparing for a third year of heightened demand due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The organization — which merged in January with Connecticut Food Bank — is in the home stretch of its largest annual "Turkey and Thirty" campaign, a fundraiser that encourages people to give not only a frozen bird but \$30 to help food-distribution efforts year-round.

CEO Jason Jakubowski says Foodshare is in a better position now than it was a year ago to meet the needs of a state wracked by high unemployment and other economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. Those needs have also waned since the height of the pandemic, allowing Foodshare to end its emergency drive-through food distribution sites at the end of October.

The largest distribution site, at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, closed in the spring.

However, more people still lack reliable access to affordable and nutritious food than before the pandemic, Jakubowski said Tuesday at City Place, where Bank of America hosted its annual "Turkey Tuesday" event to benefit Foodshare. Bank of

America collected more than 2,000 turkeys and nearly \$60,000 by midday.

"I do think there's an air of uncertainty as to what the next year holds," he said. "I'm an optimist, though, and I certainly see things getting better."

Offices have started to reopen and the jobless have started to return to the workforce, though many families are still seeing less income or, sporadically, no income at all. The state's 700 food pantries are still busy.

"As the effects of COVID drop a little bit, what happens is the lowering tide kind of reveals that iceberg of all these people who were under-earning already and they're

Turn to Turkeys, Page 2

"As the effects of COVID drop a little bit, what happens is the lowering tide kind of reveals that iceberg of all these people who were under-earning already and they're still stuck."

— Paul Shipman, senior director at Foodshare, which is working to collect 50,000 turkeys ahead of Thanksgiving

Turn to Schools, Page 2

Old Wethersfield community comes together to help stray cats

With local agencies overwhelmed, underfunded, neighbors 'couldn't just sit back and do nothing'

By Susan Dunne

Hartford Courant

WETHERSFIELD — Melinda Robidoux is allergic to cats. That didn't stop her from spearheading an effort in Old Wethersfield to rescue homeless kittens from a colony of strays that lives in Cove Park and find them forever homes.

Since summer, Robidoux and her neighbors have used Havahart traps baited with tins of cat food to catch 18 weaned kittens and four stray moms. The kittens were taken to vets to get their shots and be examined, then were adopted.

The moms were neutered and set free.

"The kittens are easy to catch. They are the last ones in the colony to eat. Adults eat first and kittens last. They are trusting and they are hungry," she said. "The adult cats, the feral ones, are harder to catch, especially if you catch one and they break free. ... Once they get wise to the process, it's hard to catch them again."

Robidoux has lived in Old Wethersfield for seven years. She always has seen cats along the bike path in Cove Park. She didn't know the cats had been abandoned by

their owners. "I always assumed they were neighborhood cats. But as I've talked to neighbors, it's very apparent that people are dropping cats off down there," she said.

Last winter, Robidoux noticed cats hunkering down near homes, crawling through cracks in porches, garages and barns. "We put bins out in our yard to protect them," she said.

She called town animal control, Connecticut Humane Society and other animal welfare agencies. "All of these agencies, they are overwhelmed. And many of them are underfunded," she said.

Robidoux's crusade began in earnest on July 4 weekend when

Turn to Cats, Page 2



Kittens 8, 9, 11 and 12, all 8-week-old males, after their wellness check at Double A Vet in Wethersfield. The kittens, born strays at the Cove, were trapped by community volunteers and adopted. COURTESY

CONNECTICUT

Police: Man threatened Lamont via Twitter

By Christine Dempsey

Hartford Courant

A Waterford man has been arrested after he threatened Gov. Ned Lamont in Twitter posts, state police said.

Jonathan D. Wright, 41, of Laurel Crest Drive, was arrested Monday on a warrant charging him with one count of second-degree threatening, they said. The charge stems from three Twitter posts last month that police said were directed toward the governor.

He posted his court-set bail of \$30,000 and is scheduled to appear in court Nov. 29. He couldn't be

reached for comment Tuesday.

State police said the three tweets, posted from Oct. 20-23, appeared to be death threats.

The most recent tweet from Oct. 23 stated, "You are scum living on borrowed time. President Trump knows what you did to the elderly Covid patients that were sent to nursing homes. All is known and you will meet your maker courtesy of a noose and a trap door. Treason = Death."

When troopers went to his house to talk to him Oct. 28, Wright admitted he wrote the tweet, state police said. He said he tweeted out of anger "but with no malicious

intent."

His other threatening tweets were from Oct. 21 and Oct. 20, according to the affidavit for his arrest.

On Oct. 21, Wright tweeted: "... We will NOT be happy until Justice is served and you are IN PRISON or take a one-way NUREMBERG CODE trip to Guantanamo Bay. IT'S COMING. PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP APPROVES OF THIS MESSAGE," the warrant said.

His tweet from Oct. 20 was: "Where you are going, it's not going to matter. Crimes against humanity = DEATH PENALTY."

In a written statement for police, Wright said he had just set up a Twitter account a month ago. He said he became upset when he heard that former New York Gov.

Andrew Cuomo had resigned because of his handling of COVID patients, that COVID-19 patients had been put into nursing homes to get the elderly sick, and that nursing homes were making money off the elderly dying from COVID, according to the warrant.

"Wright stated that this made him angry and he thought that was not right and he hoped that these people would get a military tribunal," the warrant said. He also said

he wished no harm to the governor.

"Wright stated he was just trying to say if a court had found the governor guilty of doing anything such as making money off of COVID patients, [he] should not get a get-out-of-jail-free card," it said.

Wright told police he was an Air Force veteran of eight years and that he had top secret clearance, the warrant said.

Wright has no history of criminal convictions and has no guns registered to him, state police said.

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Woman critically injured in Hartford shooting, police say

By Christine Dempsey

Hartford Courant

A woman was critically injured in a shooting in Hartford Monday night, police said.

Officers were sent to 48 Putnam St. in the city's Frog Hollow neighborhood about 10 p.m. after gunfire triggered a ShotSpotter alert, police said. They found a woman in her 30s with a gunshot wound; she was taken to the hospital, where she was listed in critical condition.

The woman was listed in critical but stable condition Tuesday morning, Lt. Aaron Boisvert said.

The circumstances of the shooting weren't clear Tuesday.

The shooting is the first police reported in a week and a half. The

wounded woman is the 144th person who survived being injured by gunfire in the city this year, Boisvert said Tuesday. The number surpasses the number of shooting victims in all of 2018 and in all of 2019 — each of which had 143 gunshot victims.

The capital city appears to be on track to have fewer nonfatal shootings than last year, which finished with 225.

The Major Crimes and Crime Scene divisions are investigating. Anyone with any information about the shooting is asked to call the police tip line at 860-722-8477 (TIPS).

Christine Dempsey can be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



Gov. Ned Lamont, left, talks with Jim Calhoun, University of St. Joseph basketball coach and former UConn basketball coach, during "Turkey Tuesday." **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Turkeys

from Page 1

still stuck," said Paul Shipman, a senior director at Foodshare. "There are people who are unable to find work because of transportation challenges or other things that just plague folks regularly. But the COVID impact still remains."

A 2020 survey of Connecticut residents found that food insecurity deepened in communities of color, impacting 54% of Hispanic and Latino residents and 35% of Black residents compared to 26% of white residents.

At the end of September, Gov. Ned Lamont estimated that about 500,000 Connecticut residents continue to face food insecurity. It's why he directed \$2.5 million in federal COVID-19 relief money to Foodshare in October to extend the massive, drive-through style distribution

events through the end of the month.

On Tuesday, the governor also brought a turkey to the lobby of CityPlace, where Renee DiNino, of The River 105.9, was broadcasting the one-day fundraiser.

For the first time this year, Avery's Beverages of New Britain is also producing a limited-edition soda and seltzer to benefit Foodshare. Fifty cents of every sale of Turkey Tonic, flavored with cranberry, orange and ginger, will benefit the food bank's work in the coming year.

"The tremendous outpouring of support here enables us to keep up with need," Shipman said.

Foodshare's Turkey and Thirty event will be largely virtual this year due to concerns about the coronavirus. Find more information at foodshare.org.

Rebecca Lurye can be reached at rlurye@courant.com.

Election

from Page 1

after former State Rep. Michael DiMassa, a West Haven Democrat, was arrested on federal charges for allegedly stealing over \$600,000 in federal COVID relief funds.

Cohen, already a sharp critic of Rossi, turned up his criticisms of the incumbent mayor as the scandal unfolded. DiMassa had been authorized by the city council, on which Cohen serves, as one of three officials (including Rossi)

responsible for managing the city's \$1.2 million in aid. Rossi has said that she didn't authorize the misspent money, but went public after she found irregularities.

Cohen said before the recount, which was held on Nov. 7, that Rossi should resign if she won. Cohen had two weeks to make a formal challenge to the results of the recount, and had previously hinted at concerns over the handling of absentee ballots.

The West Haven Democratic and Republican Registrar of Voters did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday night.



A group of volunteers from the Old Wethersfield community has been trapping and finding homes for stray kittens at the Cove. **COURTESY PHOTOS**

Cats

from Page 1

she saw kittens playing in her neighbor's yard. "I couldn't just sit back and do nothing," she said. She and her neighbors decided to tackle the problem themselves.

James Bias, executive director of the Connecticut Humane Society, said when dealing with stray or feral cat colonies, a neighborhood approach usually works well.

"That local boots-on-the-ground effort to make life easier for themselves and to keep that population of cats tended is the best option," Bias said.

Stray cats "tend to be on the lower end as a public health and safety issue," and are usually not as actively pursued by animal control agencies as stray dogs are because they are not seen as much of a threat.

"Dogs can cause more harm.

Cats tend not to chase little kids on bikes and attack them," Bias said. "Unvaccinated cats can be a rabies vector but unsocialized cats tend not to rub up against somebody wanting to be picked up. Cats are a lot more aloof."

Still, he said, cats can be a health threat because their waste can transmit toxoplasmosis, which is especially a health risk for pregnant women.

Town animal control officer David Santoro said he has been monitoring the cat colony for about 20 years. He said that adult feral cats "are impossible to rehome," but kittens can be rehomed if they are caught young enough.

"I welcome any effort to help the cats, but I hope they are being safe. As long as nobody gets hurt and they know what they are doing, it's OK," Santoro said. "If someone grabs them the cats' instinct is to protect themselves."

Santoro added that predators threaten the cats' lives. "The town has bobcats, fisher cats, coyotes, the area down around the cove by the river, you do see the hawks. They would have no problem picking up a kitten and taking them to their nest," he said.

Robidoux said she recruited two neighbors to foster the kittens, three others to help with socialization and others to sit with the kittens.

She and her cadre has captured almost all the kittens they sought out. "There was a little black one. We were not able to locate him. We don't know if he succumbed to the environment or just ran away," she said.

The volunteers have seen more kittens recently. "We're starting our new rescue mission and there is a gray tabby that is still out there."

Robidoux said she would love for the stray problem to be resolved, "but that's a very naïve thing to think ... As long as there

are male cats running around that are not fixed, the situation will never get resolved."

In the summer, Robidoux held a fundraiser and raised \$1,510 to buy traps and food and to pay vets and the spaying clinic. That fundraiser has ended but anyone can follow or join the rescue effort at the Old Wethersfield Stray and Kitten Rescue page on Facebook.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

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WPKN gala to celebrate move to new studio

Starring musician Jin Hi Kim, 'COVID-19 Ritual' juxtaposes cultural tradition, modern technology

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

It's been a big year for Bridgeport's WPKN. An article in The New Yorker magazine dubbed the community-based freeform station "the greatest radio station in the world." Then came the long-planned move to a new studio, in the same building as the historic Bijou theater on Bridgeport's Fairfield Avenue.

To mark the move, and the continued survival of a type of radio programming that in most parts of the country faded out decades ago, WPKN is holding a gala fundraiser Friday. Besides tours of the new studio and recep-

tions that showcase local eateries, there's a premiere performance by the internationally acclaimed musician and composer Jin Hi Kim, who has popularized the Asian stringed instrument the komungo.

The gala is celebratory but the performance is contemplative. "A COVID-19 Ritual" features Kim performing on the komungo, and also singing and drumming, while invited members of the Bridgeport community engage in a ritual involving a knotted 25-yard long piece of white cloth.

As Kim plays, a video processor will be triggered by the sounds she makes, creating a unique visual display that also includes

hundreds of pandemic-themed images that Kim collected herself in the last year.

The white cloth "symbolizes grief," Kim says. "This performance will try to release anxiety and grief," through "juxtaposing cultural traditions and modern American technology."

"I sing as I release the knot," Kim says.

The 45-minute work, which is divided into six sections with titles such as "Grieving," "Praying" and "Tragedy," will tour following the PKN performance and was partly funded by grants from the New England Foundation for the Arts and Connecticut Humanities.

Jin Hi Kim's husband, Joseph Celli, who suggested having her perform at the gala, has been hosting a Monday morning program on WPKN for the past eight years

— "I'm considered a newbie," he says, compared with those who've been there for decades — and has been a longtime champion of the Bridgeport arts community, including with the old Black Rock Art Center. (In Hartford, Celli is remembered as the original director of Real Art Ways.)

Until now, the studio had been at the same location since 1963. The PKN signal reaches a potential 1.5 million people around the state and beyond, including in Hartford.

"WPKN is in the midst of a monumental move," Celli says. "My suggestion was that we need to celebrate, not just cut a ribbon. It's indicative of who we are as a

"One thing that PKN responded to," Celli says about getting Kim to perform, "is involvement with

the community. In this piece, eight community volunteers participate."

The result of the PKN move that Celli likes most is that it places the station "right in the center of the community. The new location has already garnered interest and a big response from groups downtown. There's also a burgeoning level of activity. There's a direct potential economic impact coming from this. We need to go beyond being a radio station. This is a cultural institution."

The live performance is sold out, but the show is also being livestreamed, including the visual accompaniment to the music, at \$15 a ticket. Information is at cliveshows.com or wpkn.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.



Brian Phelps, second from left, stands with the Ramones, who played Toad's Place 18 times between 1983 and 1996. **BRIAN PHELPS/COURTESY**

From the stage to the page

Toad's Place, New Haven's legendary music venue, celebrated in new book

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

If ever a history book deserved to come with a soundtrack album, it would be "The Legendary Toad's Place — Stories from New Haven's Famed Music Venue" by the club's owner Brian Phelps and journalist Randall Beach. You'll want to keep your favorite music streaming service close at hand while reading it, to keep up with all the hummable memories of concerts there.

The book, published by Globe Pequot Press in Guilford, was released last month and has already sold out its first printing of over 2,500 copies. A second printing will have "The Legendary Toad's Place" back in local bookstores next week. The 240-page book (of which nearly 30 pages are needed just to list hundreds of the better-known bands that have played the club) is also available online and at the club.

The co-authors sat down with the Courant in Phelps' office above the club on York Street in New Haven, surrounded by posters and memorabilia from the club's illustrious history. Toad's has been documenting its own history vividly since its humble beginnings in the mid-1970s. A tradition of drawing portraits of the artists who play there dates back to the early years, and continues through the work of Branford-based photo-realist painter Mark Potocsky.

Toad's Place shows come in several distinct categories: local

bands (some of whom, like Michael Bolton or Hatebreed, made it big nationally); bands who played there before they got famous (most notably U2); side projects or new bands from musicians whose main bands tend to play stadiums (like Jack Bruce and Ginger Baker of Cream); celebrities you don't associate with music clubs (Eddie Murphy doing a Soul/R&B set or John McEnroe trading his tennis racket for a guitar); bands that could have played larger places in the state but just liked the Toad's vibe; and superstar acts — the Rolling Stones! Bob Dylan! Johnny Cash! Billy Joel! — who blessed the club with their presence, and furthered the legend of Toad's as a place where anything could happen.

Rock bands have gotten most of the attention, but it's hard to find a genre of music that hasn't been played on the Toad's Place stage.

"It's important for us when a group comes in, to give them the best possible showcase," Phelps says. "We always had top sound guys, who had the best equipment. Five years ago I bought my own sound system. It cost almost \$250,000. We have new lights — the light show is LED now."

Phelps has been mulling over writing a book for a while — "I didn't want people to forget," he says — but the pandemic focused his efforts. A friend recommended he work with a professional ghost-writing company, but the one he chose was ill-equipped for the task ("They didn't know how to spell

'Chuck E.'s in Love!') and turned out to be based in India.

When Phelps mentioned his stalled project to Beach, the writer — who'd been a rock critic covering Toad's for the New Haven Register early in his career — offered his assistance. Finding a publisher and working under tight deadlines helped convince Beach, who's 70, that it was a good time to leave the Register after decades as its columnist and courts reporter. He took a buyout from the paper last year.

It was Beach who came up with the idea of arranging the book into thematic chapters, including "The Local Bands," "The Crowds," "The Stones Roll In" and "The Yale Connection." There are lengthy excerpts from some of Beach's coverage of long-ago Toad's shows. The book also has hundreds of photos, many of which feature Phelps making a thumbs-up gesture while standing next to a big star like Edgar Winter, Randy Newman or Peter Frampton.

Spending as much time on backstage stories as onstage exploits, "The Legendary Toad's Place" pays lengthy tribute to the troubled yet brilliant Mike Spoerndle, who turned his failing French restaurant into a rock club in the 1970s. Phelps was working in the neighborhood and began to help Spoerndle manage Toad's informally before easing into the club business full time as his partner. Spoerndle, whom major local rock promoter Jim Koplik brands in the book as "the soul of Toad's," died

in 2011 at age 59. The descent into drug addiction that caused him to leave Toad's in the mid-1990s is documented in the book.

Spoerndle took the credit for deciding that the stage would go along one of the long walls of the club, with space on either side of it, rather than at the end of the room or in a corner as in many other clubs. "With a wide stage," Phelps says, "people can see the band from all different sides. It's more of an intoxicating experience for the band. We agreed on that for sure."

"I realized from working on this book," Beach says, "how great the partnership was between Brian and Mike. Brian keeps the trains running, is more of a businessman, while Mike was the more charismatic guy who drew people to the club."

Times have changed for rock clubs, Phelps says. "Back then, the overhead was lower, taxes were lower, and you could do things on a nickel budget. Now, there are bigger organizations you have to deal with. There are more regulations. And music sounds so good and clean now [on portable devices] that some people don't want to have to listen to bands working out their kinks on a stage."

Which makes it good timing for a book about Toad's glory days. But Phelps notes that the club is doing great these days. Dance parties came roaring back a few months ago. He runs down the schedule, pointing out how many shows are already sold out or soon will be.

Channel 3's Bruce DePrest to retire

Has been a 'reassuring voice in the storm' for more than 4 decades

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

Bruce DePrest, WFSB Channel 3's chief meteorologist, announced Monday that he will retire from the station at the end of the year.

"I'm proud to have served our Connecticut viewers for 43 years, and I'm honored to be the longest-serving anchor in the history of WFSB," DePrest said in a statement.

DePrest joined Channel 3, the state's CBS affiliate, in 1984 as the network's weekend meteorologist and became chief meteorologist in 2002.

After earning his bachelor's degree in meteorology from UMass Lowell, DePrest began as the meteorologist at The Travelers Weather Service in Hartford in 1979 before joining Channel 3.

DePrest moved to a part-time role with Channel 3 in July. He now does the weather forecasts at 5 and 6 p.m. but no longer at 11 p.m.

"I will miss all of my great coworkers who have made Eyewitness News at 11:00 so successful, but I am also looking forward to getting a better night's sleep!" DePrest wrote in a Facebook post announcing the change.

In a statement Monday, WFSB-TV Vice President/general manager Dana Neves described DePrest as "the best of the best."

"His brilliance in all things weather and forecasting is truly amazing," Neves said. "His kindness and patience have made him a favorite colleague to so many for decades."

"To the viewers, he was a calm and reassuring voice in the storm — literally. He will leave giant shoes to fill and he has shaped the WFSB Early Warning Weather team for so many years that his presence will be felt even after he retires."

"We will miss him dearly."

Winterfair popping up in Hartford to promote local holiday shopping

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Vacant storefronts in downtown Hartford will glow with holiday cheer from Black Friday to New Year's Eve, as Winterfair, a pop-up marketplace, will fill those storefronts with works by more than 100 local artists, artisans, craftspeople, food purveyors and small businesspeople.

"Winterfair: Hartford's Holiday Market," which also will feature pop-up kiosks, will be held on Pratt and Trumbull streets for 23 days, on select weekends and weekdays throughout the holiday season, according to Breakfast Lunch & Dinner, the Hartford events and promotions firm organizing Winterfair.

Jessica Emonds of Breakfast

Lunch & Dinner said that firm is

working with building owners Northland Properties to occupy some of the vacant spaces including 88 Pratt St. and 242 Trumbull St.

"We also have an additional space on Trumbull adjacent to the XL Center doors," she said. "Shelbourne has provided some spaces on the opposite side of Pratt that will be used on occasion as well."

In a news conference on Nov. 3 announcing Winterfair, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin cited the coronavirus pandemic as a reason to make the communal shopping experience more alluring.

"We've all been through a difficult year and a half and this is going to give people the chance to come together and be together," Bronin said. "And this is a great opportunity for people from all over to engage with a lot of our great small businesses, some of

which they might not have even known existed."

Emonds said the final list of vendors is not yet finalized, but approved vendors so far include entrepreneurs working with the Hartford-based Reset retail incubator. These are African Adornments, Lady Jane, Hartford Gear Co., Shade By Smoove, Nabii Organics, Ital Creations, Reboot Co., Bloom Bake Shop and Omni Prints Plus.

Winterfair will be open Black Friday from 6 to 10 p.m.; from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Nov. 27 and 28 and Dec. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19; from noon to 8 p.m. on Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 29 and 30; from noon to 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and from 2 p.m. to midnight on New Year's Eve, the same time as downtown Hartford's annual First Night events. Masks must be worn in all indoor venues.



Winterfair, a pop-up marketplace, will fill Pratt and Trumbull streets in downtown Hartford starting on Black Friday. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS
MIDDLETON PLANNING & ZONING
COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

1. Approved an affirmative G.S. 8-24 report for a proposed abandonment and transfer of a 0.05ac of land to the owner of 733 Washington Street and acquire a 10 ft wide easement along the eastern property line to the City for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks and utilities at property located at maplot 14-0007 Boston Road in the MX zone. Applicant/agent City of Middletown/ECD Dept. G.S. 8-24 2021-27 Thomas Pappavina, Chair Planning and Zoning Commission 11/17/2021 7085664

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Campbell Scott Mills (21-00792)

The Hon. Robert A. Randich, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated November 11, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jeffrey B. Mills, 678 Farmington Avenue, New Britain, CT 06053
11/17/21 7086186

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Kazimierz Dabrowski (21-00844)

The Hon. Robert A. Randich, Acting Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated November 12, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

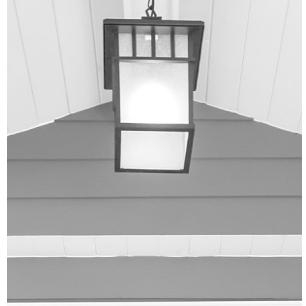
The fiduciary is:
Kajetan Dabrowski, 1149 Glen Ellen Pl, San Marcos, CA 92078
11/17/21 7086180

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Bahman Vakili, AKA Bahman F. Vakili (21-0436)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated November 12, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

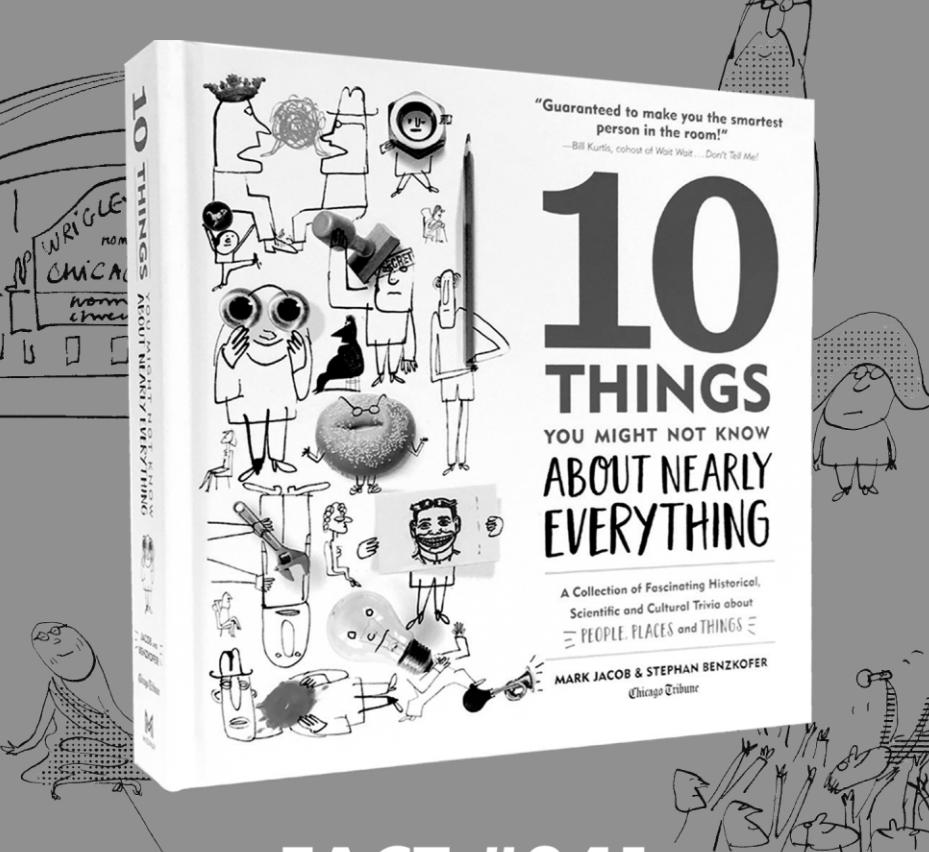
Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
CYNTHIA DEMATEIS CARTIER, CARTIER & BOWER, LLC, 2488 BOSTON POST ROAD, SUITE 16A, GUILFORD, CT 06437
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—Bill Kurtis, cohost of *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!*

A Collection of Fascinating Historical, Scientific and Cultural Trivia about
PEOPLE, PLACES and THINGS

MARK JACOB & STEPHAN BENZKOFR
Chicago Tribune

FACT #341

The folks who brought us Reddi-wip whipped cream had another brainstorm in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything

contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.

FACT #84: A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #178 : Genophobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238: Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

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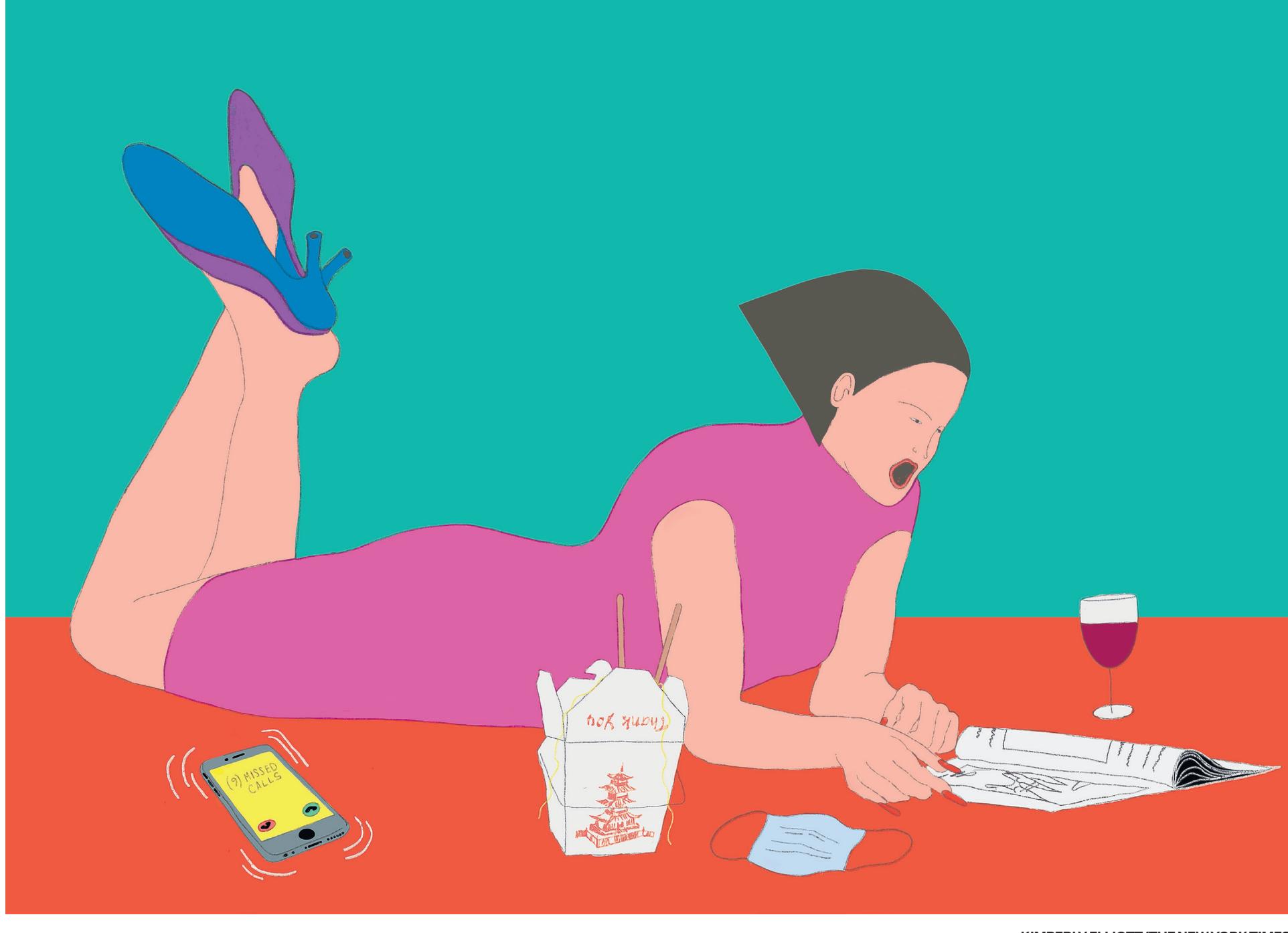
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KIMBERLY ELLIOTT/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Convenient excuse

People are lying about COVID-19 exposure to get out of plans

By Danielle Braff

The New York Times

Last winter Trysta Barwig was burned out. She was overwhelmed by her job as a program manager, and she was traveling too often for work from her home in Atlanta. She needed a break.

So when Barwig's boss asked her to pack her bags again, she used what had become her go-to excuse: a COVID-19 exposure.

"I figured this would be easier to tell my boss than having to answer a million follow-up questions of why I couldn't go," said Barwig, 31, who is also the founder of a travel blog, This Travel Dream. "He was very supportive and excused me from traveling for work."

Problem solved.

As the holidays lurk around the corner, plans are picking up in some parts of the world. And so too is social anxiety, at least among those who are naturally introverted or who might be feeling a little rusty after about 18 months of restricted interactions.

Some people have started lying about COVID-19 exposure, figuring it's the one way out of plans — from work to dates to dental appointments — that few will argue with.

Others have been using the

lie all along.

Of course, actual exposure to COVID-19 is no joke, and lying about it is a luxury that many people, including huge numbers of essential workers who risked their health over the course of the pandemic, don't have.

Dr. Larry Burchett, an emergency room doctor and family physician in Berkeley, California, said that those who are unvaccinated and are actually exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should quarantine for 14 days even without symptoms.

Vaccinated individuals who have been in contact (within 6 feet of someone for at least 15 minutes) with someone who has COVID-19 don't need to quarantine unless they have symptoms, but they should get tested five to seven days after exposure, Burchett said, in accordance with CDC guidelines.

But even permission from the CDC to skip quarantine if you're vaccinated and not showing symptoms doesn't stop some from deploying the lie.

Back in March, before many people were vaccinated, John Junior thought he had met the perfect woman online. Junior, a mental health activist from Cheshire, England, chatted with her online for two

months before arranging to meet in person.

He bought movie tickets and made reservations at a bowling alley, only to get the dreaded COVID-19 excuse on the day of their date.

"She messaged saying her uncle dropped some presents off a few nights ago, and he said he has symptoms of COVID," said Junior, 33. "She said to me she can't leave the house in case she has COVID."

Junior was skeptical of her story, so she upped the ante, telling him she had actually tested positive. She sent him a photo of the test over Snapchat; he said, with a black marker clearly used to create a positive result. It's the third time Junior had a date cancel because of alleged COVID-19 exposure, he said.

Sara Bernier, founder of Born for Pets, a blog providing pet care tips, has been on the other side of the equation. Last year, she met someone online and had plans to meet him, until he started sending suggestive messages the day before their date.

"Since I have a difficult time saying something as simple as 'no,' I made an elaborate story about getting COVID and how it would be impossible for me to show up," said Bernier, who is 29 and lives in New York.

Therapists aren't surprised

that COVID-19 exposure has become such a convenient — yet also horrific — excuse for our times.

"For people who want to avoid doing something, whether due to anxiety, existential dread or the idea that it would be easier to stay in and watch 'Squid Game' than get dressed and go out into the world, the COVID excuse seems tailor-made: It's timely, prominent and appears driven by an altruistic concern for your friends, co-workers or strangers' health," said Suraji Wagage, co-founder and director of the Center for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in California.

"It's difficult for the receiving party to react negatively without seeming like they don't care about others' health or the spread of the global pandemic," she said.

Bonus: The excuse can be recycled without necessarily arousing suspicion, as you can potentially be exposed to COVID-19 repeatedly and at any time, Wagage added.

But it's precisely because this excuse is so good that it poses its own risks, she said. By spending so long leaving the house sparingly, if at all, we've conditioned ourselves into limited socialization. As a result, it's more difficult to do what seemed ordinary before,

such as meeting friends for dinner or even going to work in an office.

Jamie Hickey, a human resources specialist at Coffee Semantics in Philadelphia, said he and his wife were supposed to attend two weddings within a 10-day period this past June. They really didn't want to go but couldn't think of anything that would get them out of both events with one swift lie.

"So we told them that I had a close encounter with someone that has since tested positive for COVID, and I had tested positive but was not having any bad symptoms," Hickey, 42, said.

"We told them we didn't want to come to a large event and possibly pass along the virus to anyone else."

The lie worked a little too well, and the couple was inundated with phone calls, texts and emails from dozens of people making sure the Hickneys were OK. Did they need soup? Medical care? Assistance of any kind? COVID-19 is, after all, no joke.

Finally, Hickey admitted that they lied, which led to many lectures about his lack of morality.

"In the end," he said, "it may have been easier to just go to the weddings and drink for free."

"For people who want to avoid doing something, whether due to anxiety, existential dread or the idea that it would be easier to stay in and watch 'Squid Game' than get dressed and go out into the world, the COVID excuse seems tailor-made: It's timely, prominent and appears driven by an altruistic concern for your friends, co-workers or strangers' health."

— Suraji Wagage, co-founder and director of the Center for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in California

EX-ETIQUETTE

You'll know when it's the right time to get remarried

By Jann Blackstone
Tribune News Service

Q. Five years ago my wife passed away suddenly of a heart attack at age 43. I have since met a wonderful woman and we have been seeing each other for three years. My daughter, 14, gets along with her and her 11-year-old daughter very well. We are considering marriage, but within the last year my daughter has

changed. She has become self-centered and very intolerant of my fiancée. It's become such a problem that my fiancée and I are thinking about putting our wedding plans on hold. What's good ex-etiquette?

A. Studies show that people who want to marry again after a spouse has passed indicates they had a happy marriage and look forward to creating the same sort of relation-

ship again. However, the children of the deceased parent may not feel the same way. It's quite probable your daughter feels that by getting close to someone else, she is betraying the memory of their own mother. The nicer your partner is to your daughter, the more belligerent your daughter becomes.

There may be other issues contributing to your daughter's behavior. First,

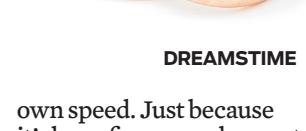
she's 14. There are all sorts of changes 14-year-olds face that they may not be expecting — and neither are their parents.

It's usually around 14 that teens have their first serious crush. They are dealing with body image and raging hormones as well. This can make them moody and unpredictable and see things only from their own perspective. A young teen may not have the emotional capacity to stand back and analyze

why they may be feeling something and then adjust. They just react.

The best thing you can pass on to your daughter is that loving your fiancée in no way diminishes the love or close relationship she had with her mother. It's right for her to have a special place in her heart for her mother and she's not betraying anyone by also accepting someone else.

We all move on at our



DREAMSTIME

own speed. Just because it's been five years does not mean your children don't need counseling now to deal with their feelings. You may want to postpone the wedding for a short time. Going too fast will sabotage the blending effort. You will know when it's the right time.

CELEBRITIES

Spears plans to celebrate for months

From news services

Britney Spears has been posting often on Instagram since a judge Friday ended the conservatorship that had controlled her person and her estate for nearly 14 years. On Monday, she shared her joy, her party plans and more.

"What an amazing weekend ... I felt like I was on cloud 9 the whole time !!!," Spears wrote in a caption on one of the 10 new posts since Friday. "I actually got my first glass of champagne at the most beautiful restaurant I've ever seen last night !!! I'm celebrating my freedom and my B day for the next two months !!!!!!!! I mean after 13 years ... I think I've waited long ENOUGH !!!" She sprinkled emojis throughout.

Spears also expressed her gratitude for the many people who helped end her controversial conservatorship. "I'm so happy my lawyer Mathew Rosenhart came into my life when he did ... he has truly turned my life around ... I'm forever thankful for that !!!," she wrote. "What a sight seeing so many people celebrating my victory I love my fans so much ... so thank you !!!"

Fans who backed the #FreeBritney movement sang and danced in the street Friday outside the Los Angeles courthouse where the hearing was held. The court will reconvene next month to tie up financial loose ends in the conservatorship case.

Stewart dives into ghost hunting: Kristen Stewart is developing a gay ghost-hunting reality TV series, a project she is describing as "a paranormal romp in a queer space." Stewart revealed her plans to join the celebrity ghost-hunting trend in a New Yorker interview.

"Gay people love pretty things," the actor, 31, told



Britney Spears has been posting on Instagram since her conservatorship ended Friday. **ETHAN MILLER/GETTY 2018**

the magazine last month, in an interview published Tuesday. "So we are aiming for a richness," she added.

Stewart, who recently announced she's engaged to girlfriend Dylan Meyer, said that she's also writing a TV series with her soon-to-be-wife, a fellow actor and screenwriter.

Twice plans US tour: Twice, the nine-member K-pop band with over 9 million Twitter followers, announced a tour Monday that will bring them in February to five U.S. cities.

"People didn't know as much about us as they do now," band member Jihyo said ahead of last week's release of its third full-length album, "Formula Of Love: O+T=3," adding that the growing popularity of K-pop has allowed the band to release more English tracks.

Twice released its first full English-language single, "The Feels," in October, which was their

first song to debut on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Wallen to tour again: Morgan Wallen announced plans Monday to resume touring after canceling shows this summer to work on himself after being largely cast out by the country music industry for using a racial slur.

The country musician will launch the 46-city Dangerous Tour on Feb. 3 in Evansville, Indiana. The artist, 28, will be joined by singers Hardy and Larry Fleet at select stops during the seven-month tour.

Nov. 17 birthdays: Singer Gordon Lightfoot is 83. Singer Bob Gaudio is 79. Director Martin Scorsese is 79. Producer Lorne Michaels is 77. Actor Danny DeVito is 77. Entertainer RuPaul is 61. Actor Daisy Fuentes is 55. Singer Ronnie DeVoe is 54. Actor Rachel McAdams is 43. Bassist Reid Perry is 33. Actor Raquel Castro is 27.

Ji-Young joins 'Sesame Street' as its first Asian American muppet

By Terry Tang
Associated Press

What's in a name? Well, for Ji-Young, the newest muppet resident of "Sesame Street," her name is a sign she was meant to live there.

"So, in Korean, traditionally the two syllables they each mean something different, and Ji means, like, smart or wise. And Young means, like, brave or courageous and strong," Ji-Young explained during a recent interview. "But we were looking it up and guess what? Ji also means sesame."

At only 7 years old, Ji-Young is making history as the first Asian American muppet in the "Sesame Street" canon. She is Korean American and has two passions: rocking out on her electric guitar and skateboarding. The children's television program first aired 52 years ago this November.

Ji-Young will be introduced in "See Us Coming Together: A Sesame Street Special."

Simu Liu, Padma Lakshmi and Naomi Osaka are among the celebrities appearing in the special, which will drop Thanksgiving Day on HBO Max, "Sesame Street" social media platforms and local PBS stations.

Some of Ji-Young's personality comes from her puppeteer, Kathleen Kim, 41, who is Korean American. Being a puppeteer on a show Kim watched growing up was a dream come true. But helping shape an original muppet is a whole other feat.

"I feel like I have a lot of weight that maybe I'm putting on myself to teach these lessons and to be this representative that I did not have as a kid," Kim said. But a fellow puppeteer reminded her, "It's not about us ... It's about this



Ernie, a muppet, appears with new character Ji-Young Nov. 1 on the set of "Sesame Street" in New York. **NOREEN NASIR/AP**

message."

One thing Ji-Young will help teach children is how to be a good "upstander." "Sesame Street" first used the term on its "The Power of We" TV special last year.

"Being an upstander means you point out things that are wrong or something that someone does or says that is based on their negative attitude towards the person because of the color of their skin or the language they speak or where they're from," said Kay Wilson Stallings, executive vice president of Creative and Production for Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind "Sesame Street."

"We want our audience to understand they can be upstanders."

In "See Us Coming Together," Sesame Street is preparing for Neighbor Day where everyone shares food, music or dance from their culture. Ji-Young becomes upset after a kid, off screen, tells her "to go back home," an insult commonly flung at Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. But she feels empowered after Sesame Street's other Asian American residents, guest stars and friends like Elmo assure her that she belongs as much as anyone else.

Having already made several famous friends on "Sesame Street," is there any Linda Lindas still really wants to meet?

"The Linda Lindas

because they're so cool,"

Ji-Young said, referring

to the teenage punk rock

band. "And they rock out,

and they're cool girls, and

most of them are Asian.

They're my heroes. If we

can get the Linda Lindas

on 'Sesame Street,' I would

show them around."



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Relationship is in trouble if values don't align

Dear Amy: My boyfriend and I have been together for a year and a half. This is the best relationship I've ever had.

We're very much in love. We have talked about marriage and one day starting our own family (he has three children, I have none). The problem is that recently, my perspective regarding things I've believed all of my life has shifted.

For example, I've believed in monogamy and have worked hard to be monogamous. However, I no longer feel that monogamy is right for me.

I no longer have any desire to be with only one person for the rest of my life. I don't want to deprive myself of the experiences that this one life has to offer.

I revealed my feelings to my boyfriend during the summer and suggested an open relationship. It was the hardest thing I've ever had to do, because as much as I love him and he loves me, I don't think he can handle it.

I told him I didn't see

any other way our relationship could work. It all seemed fine until he learned that I had actually slept with someone else (actually, multiple people).

It is obvious that he is

hurt, even though I've tried to explain to him how my sexual desires for other people don't reflect my love for him. He says he's fine with my choice, but he is visibly upset.

I've started counseling, and I'm trying to be patient to see if he can really do this, but is it right to keep this going, knowing that I have no intention on being monogamous, and know-

ing how much that hurts him?

— Open and Lost in the South

Dear Open: Let's assume that your take on this is correct, in that your polyamorous lifestyle is devastating to your boyfriend.

Loving relationships are

supposed to exist along

a basically balanced axis.

Partners don't always get

what they want when they

want it, but ideally, they

will share core values. A

core value is a behavior or

belief that you place at the

center of your life.

Monogamy is a core

value. Polyamory is, too.

These two values are in

direct conflict.

Is it fair for you to

continue in a relationship where your choices hurt and diminish someone who loves you?

The answer is: no.

Are your personal choices affecting his children? Probably. (At the very least, their father's sadness will affect his

sadness will affect his behavior toward them.)

I assume you are making

efforts to protect yourself

and your boyfriend from

STDs, but is it healthy to

hook up with multiple

sexual partners during a

pandemic? Probably not.

Dear Amy: Our almost

12-year-old niece has

announced to the family

that her preferred

pronouns are now they/

them. They now wish to

be called a name typically

used for boys.

This has been met with

open-armed support from

the parents, consistent

with their laissez faire

approach to parenting.

I often find myself

reacting to their style of

parenting in a judgmental way, so it's hard for me to separate what is good for their daughter in terms of guidance versus letting the child use another, possibly temporary, way to control the whole family.

Does a good auntie, who has generally been a rare authoritative figure in the child's life, jump into their gender experimenting wholeheartedly, or does a good auntie stick with tradition (using her birth name) until it's more obvious that the child is indeed not cisgender?

— Good Auntie

Dear Auntie: You don't get to decide another person's gender, even if you suspect this declaration is a temporary experiment.

A good auntie lets the parents chart their own course — even if she disagrees with it — keeps her mouth shut and loves her nieces and nephews just as they are.

Dear Amy: I am glad you suggested that "Teacher in a Quandary" make an effort to find the owner of a collection left in her classroom many years ago.

I liked your suggestion that she post a photo of one item to test true ownership. She should contact a local librarian to get help with this. It might save her time and energy if she's not experienced with social media.

— Love a Mystery

Dear Mystery: Great suggestion!

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HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Prepare for some disruptions today! An argument over a preestablished situation could break out.

Friends who normally support you might seem unsympathetic to your circumstances. Stick to your guns!

Taurus (April 20-May 20): It could take every

last ounce of your tact to

deal with a toxic person

in your circle. Provoking

them will probably only

make it harder to escape

their grasp, so it would be

wise to avoid their ire until

you see an opportunity to

completely get them out of

your life.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): There's a great amount of

tension in the air today.

If you aren't careful, your

efforts to help someone

else could drain all of your

energy. Some people might

criticize your decision,

but most should support

it, because it isn't your job

to rescue someone who

doesn't want to be saved.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You probably aren't in the

mood to take orders from

anyone. Unfortunately,

<p

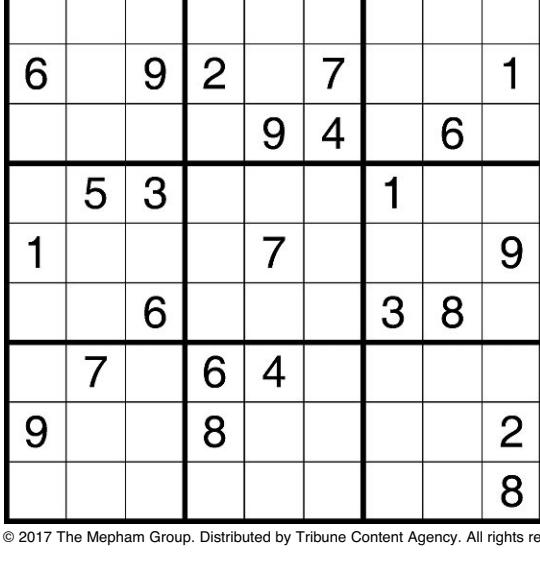
BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at PlayJumble.com



Scan QR code to play online.

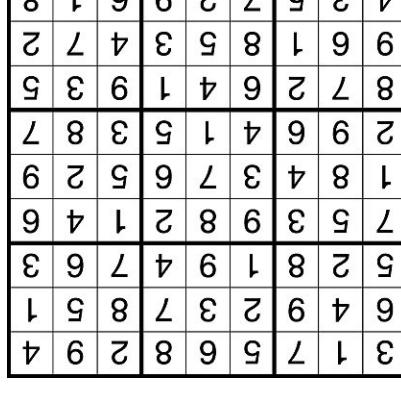
SUDOKU



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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

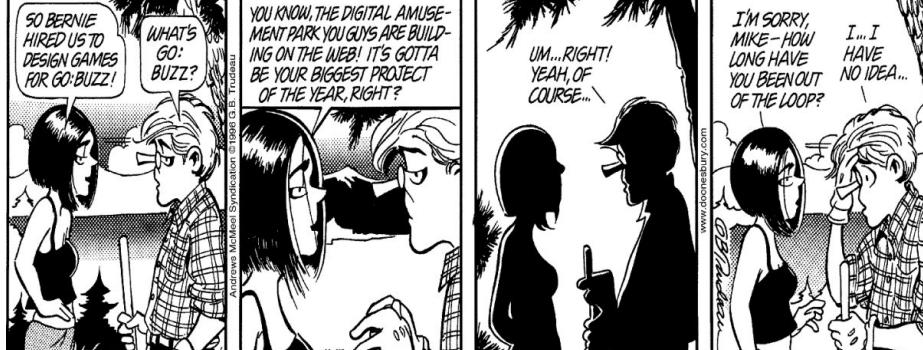
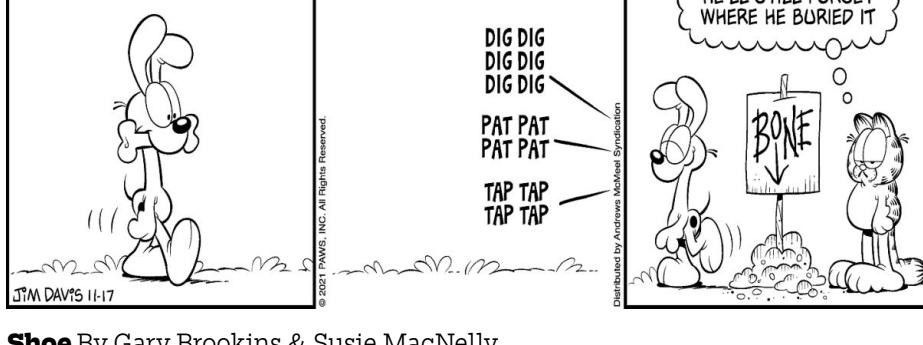
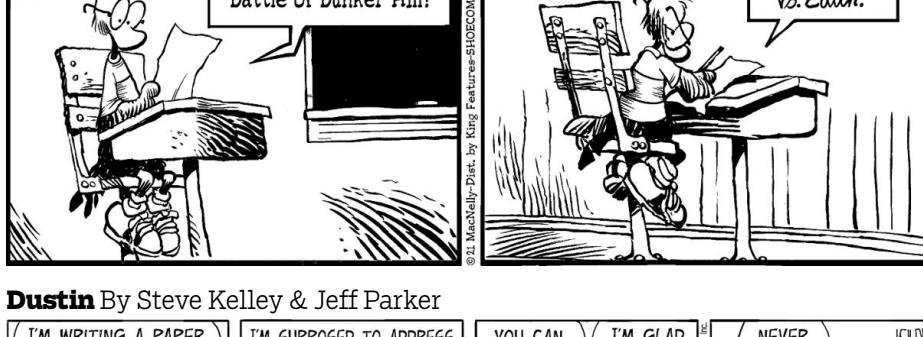
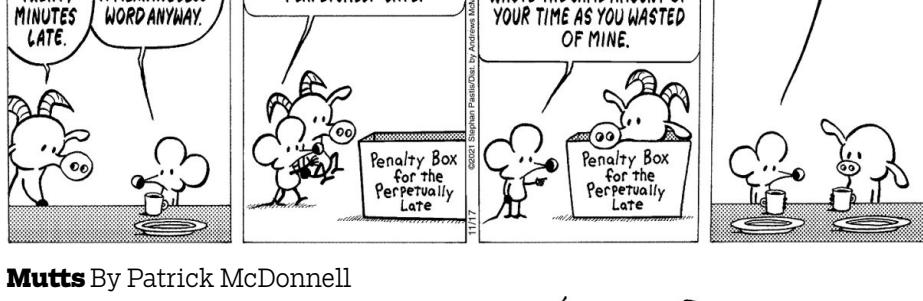
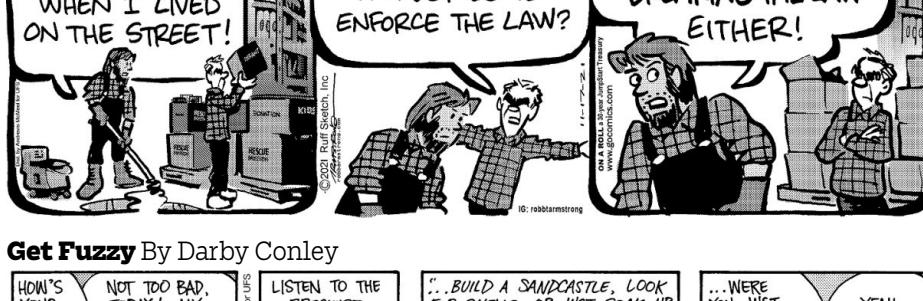
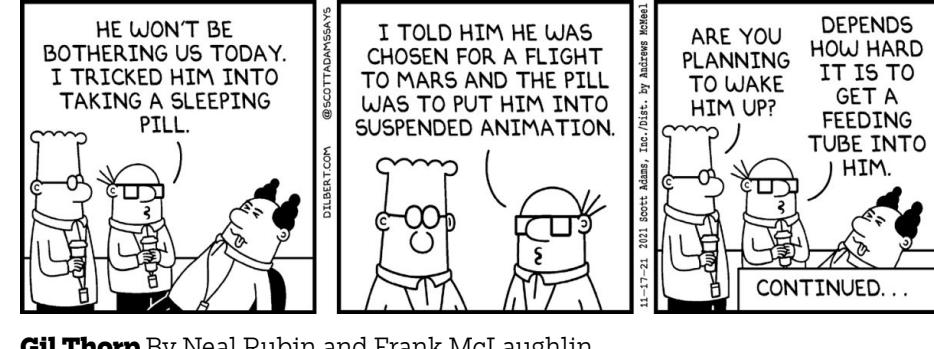
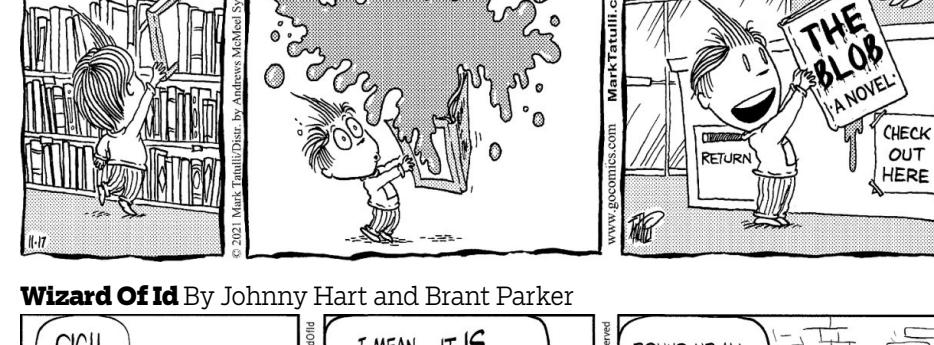
INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word lists, crossing out common words.

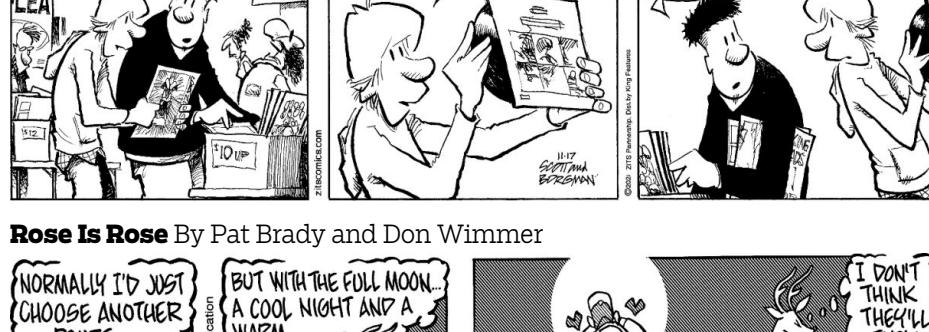
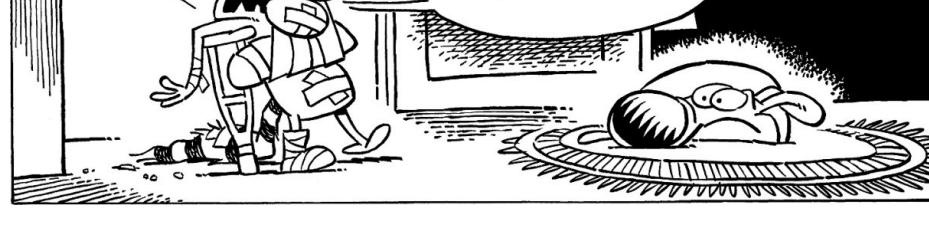
POSSIBLE POINT SCALE
3 letters = 1 point
4 letters = 2 points
5 letters = 3 points
6 letters = 4 points
7 letters = 5 points
8 letters = 6 points
9+ letters = 10 points
10-20 = Amateur
21-30 = Rookie
31-60 = Garner
61-100 = Pro
101-150 = Expert
151+ = Champ

RATING
1-10 = Try again
11-20 = Amateur
21-30 = Rookie
31-60 = Garner
61-100 = Pro
101-150 = Expert
151+ = Champ

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SIX UNITS OF TIME in the grid of letters.

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz**Classic Doonesbury** By Garry Trudeau**Garfield** By Jim Davis**Shoe** By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly**Dustin** By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker**Pearls Before Swine** By Stephan Pastis**Mutts** By Patrick McDonnell**Arctic Circle** By Alex Hallatt**Jump Start** By Robb Armstrong**Get Fuzzy** By Darby Conley**Blondie** By Dean Young and John Marshall**Dilbert** By Scott Adams**Gil Thorp** By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin**Mary Worth** By Karen Moy and June Brigman**Rex Morgan, M.D.** By Terry Beatty**Judge Parker** By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley**Baldo** By Cantu and Castellanos**Funky Winkerbean** By Tom Batiuk**Lio** By Mark Tatulli**Wizard Of Id** By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker**Rhymes With Orange** By Hilary Price**Monty** By Jim Meddick

For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston**B.C.** By Hart**Beetle Bailey** by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker**Hi & Lois** By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne**Hagar The Horrible** By Chris Browne**Non Sequitur** By Wiley Miller**Curtis** By Ray Billingsley**Pickles** By Brian Crane**Zits** By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman**Rose Is Rose** By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer**Mother Goose And Grimm** By Mike Peters**CROSSWORD**

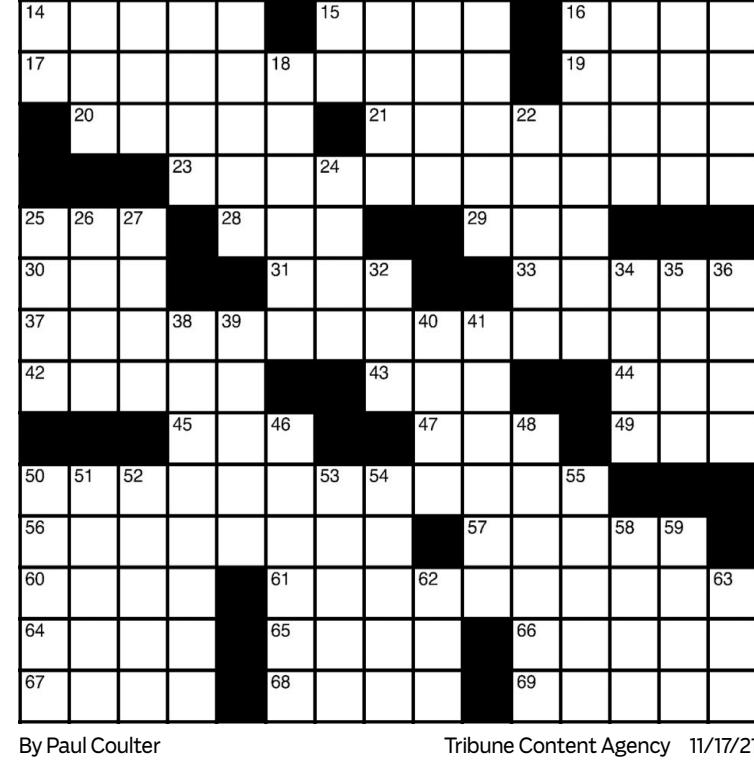
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 "Encore!"
6 Small strings
10 Big zero
14 Ballet bend
that's a homophone for a cheese dish
15 One chip, maybe
16 Love, in Lima
17 Cook, i.e.?
19 Canceled
20 1953 Alan Ladd classic
21 Many a dictator's quality
23 Pink, i.e.?
25 Actress Ryan of "Courage Under Fire"
28 Nickname of 1950s Reds slugger Ted
29 Meds- approving agcy.
30 Climbing vine
31 Brian of Roxy Music
33 Upright
37 Rook, i.e.?
42 Elevator stop
43 Leaves in small bags
44 Pitcher's stat
45 Univ. dorm mentors
47 Enero begins it
49 ___ Jones
50 E'er, i.e.?
56 City north of Des Moines
57 Must-haves
60 Stare open-mouthed
61 Sort, i.e.?

Down

- 8 Eiffel Tower level
9 Detonate
10 Part of the "Hey Jude" refrain
11 "You're ___ friends"
12 Range rover?
13 Loud, as a crowd
18 Big name in 43-Across
22 Pain relief brand marketed to women
24 Ditty
25 Annoy
26 Like villains
27 Greek lamb sandwich
32 Breakfast cereal grain
34 Checked out
35 Lyre-playing emperor
36 Sketch



By Paul Coulter

Tribune Content Agency 11/17/21

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.**NORTH**

♦ A Q 7
♦ 4
♦ K Q J 10 Under
♣ K J 9 3

WEST

♠ 6 5
♥ Q J 8 7 2
♦ A 6 3
♣ Q 7 6

EAST

♦ 9 2
♥ A 10 9 5 3
♦ 8 7 2
♣ A 10 4

SOUTH

♣ K J 10 8 4 3
♥ K 6
♦ 9 4
♣ 8 5 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♡	Pass
4 ♣			

Opening lead — queen of hearts.

On a wing and a prayer

Sometimes a defender must make a play that appears to be suicidal. Yet when the special circumstances of that deal are analyzed, it can be seen that the play is absolutely necessary.

Take this case where South is in four spades and West leads the queen of hearts. East takes the ace and has to decide what to do next. He should conclude that his only chance to defeat the contract is to return the four of clubs!

Before examining the reasons for this play, let's first observe its effect. West puts up the queen of clubs, taken by dummy's king. Sooner or later, declarer concedes a trick to the ace of diamonds. When he does, West returns a club through dummy's J-9, and East's A-10 of clubs set the contract.

Now let's examine the reasoning that points the way to this defense. The first step is for East to dismiss any lie of the cards that would render the contract impregnable. East must therefore assume

that West has the ace of diamonds, since if South has that card, the contract can't be beaten.

Having done this, East can now count three defensive tricks in the form of three aces. The remaining question is where the fourth trick might come from. Given South's spade bids and dummy's spade holding, there is no hope of getting a trump trick, so the only possibility remaining is to score two club tricks. This can't be done if South has the club queen, so West must be credited with that card.

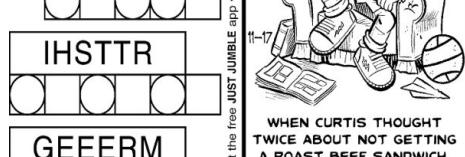
However, the two club tricks can be taken only if the defense is in the position to collect them when West's presumed ace of diamonds is driven out. And the only way this can be achieved is with a low club return by East at trick two. As it happens, West has both of the cards East needs to defeat the contract, and the virtue of his logic reaps a just reward.

Tomorrow: What can defeat me?

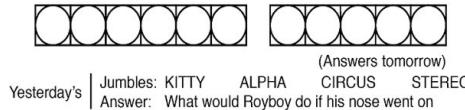
JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



TODAY'S GUEST JUMBLER IS RAY BILLINGSLEY creator of CURTIS



GIVE THE FREE JUMBLE APP. FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @RAYBILLINGSLEY

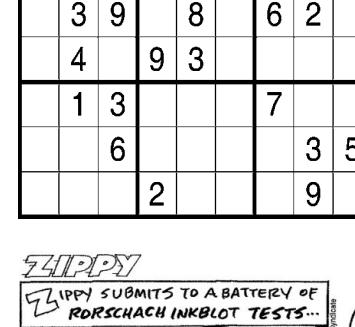
WHEN CURTIS THOUGHT TWICE ABOUT NOT GETTING A ROAST BEEF SANDWICH, HE KNEW IT WAS A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KITTY ALPHA CIRCUS STEREO

Answer: What would Royboy do if his nose went on strike? — PICKET

TODAY'S SUDOKU

Complete the grid so each

row, column and 3x3 box

(in bold borders) contains

every digit, 1 to 9. For strate-

gies on how to solve Sudoku,

visit www.sudoku.org.uk**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE****ZIPPY****"INK STAINED"**

Why isn't there a COVID-19 vaccine for pets?

By Emily Anthes

The New York Times

Over the past year, coronavirus vaccines have gone into billions of human arms — and into the fuzzy haunches of an ark's worth of zoo animals. Jaguars are getting the jab. Bonobos are being dosed. So are orangutans and otters, ferrets and fruit bats, and, of course, lions and tigers and bears (oh, my!).

Largely left behind, however, are two creatures much closer to home: domestic cats and dogs.

Pet owners have noticed.

"I get so many questions about this issue," Dr. Elizabeth Lennon, a veterinarian at the University of Pennsylvania, said. "Will there be a vaccine? When will there be a vaccine?"

Technically, a pet vaccine is feasible. In fact, several research teams say they have already developed promising cat or dog vaccines; the shots that zoo animals are receiving were initially designed for dogs.

But vaccinating pets is simply not a priority, experts said. Although dogs and cats can catch the virus, a growing body of evidence suggests that Fluffy and Fido play little to no role in its spread — and rarely fall ill themselves.

"A vaccine is quite unlikely, I think, for dogs and cats," Dr. Will Sander, a veterinarian at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, said. "The risk of disease spread and illness in pets is so low that any vaccine would not be worth giving."

In February 2020, a woman in Hong Kong was diagnosed with COVID-19. Two other people in her home soon tested positive for the virus, as did one unexpected member of the household: an elderly Pomeranian. The 17-year-old dog was the first pet known to catch the virus.

But not the last. A German shepherd in Hong Kong soon tested



Although dogs and cats can catch the coronavirus, a growing body of evidence suggests they play little to no role in its spread — and rarely fall ill themselves. RUTH FREMSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

positive, too, as did cats in Hong Kong, Belgium and New York. The cases were exceedingly mild — the animals had few or no symptoms — and experts concluded that humans had spread the virus to the pets, rather than vice versa.

"To date, there hasn't been any documented cases of dogs or cats spreading the virus to people," Lennon said.

But the prospect of a pet pandemic sparked interest in an animal vaccine. Zoetis, a veterinary pharmaceutical company based in New Jersey, began working on one as soon as it heard about the Hong Kong Pomeranian.

"We figured, 'Wow, this could become serious, so let's start working on a product,'" Mahesh Kumar, a senior vice president at Zoetis who leads vaccine development, said.

By the fall of 2020, Zoetis had four promising candidates for a vaccine, each of which elicited "robust"

antibody responses in cats and dogs, the company announced. (The studies, which were small, have not been published.)

But as vaccine development progressed, it became increasingly apparent that the infection of pets was unlikely to pose a serious threat to animals or people.

In one study of 76 pets living with people who had the virus, 17.6% of cats and 1.7% of dogs also tested positive. (Studies have consistently shown that cats are more susceptible to infection than dogs, perhaps for both biological and behavioral reasons.) Of the infected pets, 82.4% had no symptoms.

When pets do fall ill, they tend to have mild symptoms, which may include lethargy, coughing, sneezing, runny noses or diarrhea. The animals typically make full recoveries without treatment, although a handful of more severe cases do occur occasionally.

Moreover, there is no

evidence that cats or dogs spread the virus to humans — and there are few signs that they readily transmit it among themselves.

Stray cats, for instance, are much less likely to have antibodies to the virus than cats that live with people, suggesting that the animals are largely getting the virus from us, rather than from each other.

"It doesn't look like cats or dogs would ever be a reservoir for this virus," Dr. Jeanette O'Quin, a veterinarian at Ohio State University, said. "We believe that if there weren't sick people around them, they would not be able to continue spreading it from animal to animal — it would not continue to exist in their population."

Together, these factors convinced experts that a vaccine for pets was not necessary. In November 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which regulates veterinary medicines, said it was not accepting

any applications for cat or dog vaccines "because data do not indicate such a vaccine would have value."

Although the evidence so far suggests that the virus is not a major threat to pets, there is a lot left to learn, scientists acknowledge. It is still not clear how frequently infected humans pass the virus to their pets, especially because officials do not recommend routine testing for companion animals, and the virus may have health effects in pets that have not yet been identified.

In a paper published this month, scientists raised the possibility that the alpha variant, which was first identified in Britain, might cause heart inflammation in dogs and cats. The evidence is circumstantial, but the virus has been linked to the same problem in humans, and the connection is worth exploring, experts said.

"We need to do more research in this area to find

out if this is a real association," O'Quin said.

There may be individual pets that are at especially high risk from the virus. Lennon and her colleagues recently identified an immunocompromised dog that appeared to become severely ill from the virus. Unlike most infected dogs, this one also shed high levels of the virus for more than a week.

"Of course, that's one case, but it really does illustrate that COVID isn't the same in all pets, just like it isn't in all people," Lennon said.

It is certainly possible that future research — or changes in the virus — could change the calculus on a pet vaccine. If the virus turns out to be more prevalent, virulent or transmissible in dogs or cats than is currently known, that would make the case for a vaccine more compelling, scientists said. The USDA has said it may reevaluate its position if "more evidence of transmission and clinical disease" emerges in a particular species.

If that time comes, Zoetis is prepared to pick up where it left off with its pet vaccines, Kumar said. He said that if the company's mink vaccine is licensed, veterinarians might be able to use it off-label in the event of an unexpected outbreak in cats or dogs.

Applied DNA Sciences, a New York-based biotech company, has also developed a promising cat vaccine "as a 'just in case,'" CEO James Hayward said. (Like Zoetis, the company, which is working in partnership with Italian company Evvivax, is now more focused on a mink vaccine.)

For now, there are steps that pet owners can take to protect their animals. People who test positive for the virus should isolate from their pets, if possible, or wear a face mask while caring for them.

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UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**Win over Arkansas more than just Bueckers**

How Williams and Westbrook helped support star guard

By Alexa Philipou

Hartford Courant

The UConn women's basketball team figures to have more depth this season than it's had in recent years, but in Sunday's season opener against Arkansas, the Huskies leaned on a trio of scorers, not solely sophomore sensa-

tion Paige Bueckers, to guide them to their 95-80 win.

Senior Christyn Williams and redshirt senior Evina Westbrook were the only other players to hit double figures, finishing with 18 and 15 points respectively. Together with Bueckers, the trio combined for just over 70% of UConn's points.

How exactly the team's scoring depth shakes out is to be determined. The freshmen, theoretically, will only get more comfortable on the court, and if

the posts stay out of foul trouble, which was an issue Sunday, they can be more effective on the floor.

UConn coach Geno Auriemma did say that guard trio taking over is "probably going to happen most of the year," in part because of the Huskies' undeniable strength in the backcourt and also given certain matchups where their posts may be at a disadvantage. While Bueckers has been a reliable force since arriving on

Turn to UConn, Page 4



UConn's Christyn Williams sets up the defense against Arkansas on Sunday in Hartford. Williams scored 18 points in the 95-80 victory.
JESSICA HILL/AP

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING



MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Enfield senior and Olympic Trials qualifier Aislin Farris is ready to compete in the Class LL swim championships

By Lori Riley

Hartford Courant

Last year, Enfield High senior Aislin Farris competed for her high school swim team for the first time. The season was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic and there were no state championships so

Farris, who went to the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials in June, came back for another year.

She is getting her chance to compete in the Class LL championship meet on Wednesday and will face off against another Olympic Trials qualifier, Lauren Walsh of Trumbull, in the 200-yard individual medley at Southern Connecticut State University. Farris is the third seed behind Walsh and Greenwich's Payton Foster.

Farris is also the top seed in the 100-yard backstroke. She qualified for the Olympic Trials in the 200-meter backstroke.

For Farris, high school swimming is different than club swimming and she enjoys that. At the higher-level meets with her Bluefish Swim Club

out of Springfield, Massachusetts, she competes in the 200-meter backstroke and the 400-meter IM. In high school, she could swim different events, like the 50-yard free and the 100-yard breaststroke.

She holds school records in the 200 IM, 100 back, 500 free and 100 free.

"I never really get the opportunity to swim sprints and shorter races," she said. "I think swimming the 200 IM helps with my 400 IM and the 100 back helps my 200 back."

"Sometimes it's fun. Sometimes it's hard. Sprints are a very different race. Sometimes they're harder than longer races, in my opinion, but definitely helpful."

Farris didn't swim in high school her freshman and sophomore year because she didn't have time to do both club and high school practices. But after spring club swimming was canceled

Turn to Farris, Page 2

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER

Simsbury advances to Class L title game

By Lori Riley

Hartford Courant

WINDSOR — Simsbury High's soccer goalkeeper Maddie Brooke knows penalty kick situations. Three times in her high school career she's faced them, and twice her team had come out ahead.

But Tuesday night against E.O. Smith was her last chance, as a senior, to get to the Class L championship game. Simsbury hadn't been to a final since 2007 and the Trojans had not won a title since they shared one with Cheshire in

2005. There were no state championships played last year due to the pandemic.

The teams had battled through regulation and two overtimes and were still scoreless.

"I take deep breaths," Brooke said. "Ignore the crowd, ignoring everybody around me. Breathing and focusing on what I'm going to do to save that ball."

Brooke saved two of three penalty kicks. Her four Simsbury teammates made each of their

Turn to Soccer, Page 2



E.O. Smith's Gracie Person controls the ball in the first half of a Class L semifinal girls soccer game against Simsbury Tuesday night at Windsor.

HARTFORD COURANT

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cole is ready to take charge

By Shreyas Laddha

Hartford Courant

STORRS — UConn guard R.J. Cole is fearless. His intensity in each game is evident every time he squares his toes, stands up straight and braces for impact. He is putting his body on the line every single night for UConn men's basketball. The result? Cole has an unofficial charge counter among fans and media alike. He currently has five drawn, including four vs. Coppin State.

For Cole, it all goes back to his mentality. UConn is currently ranked No. 23 in the nation. With that ranking comes every mid-major school, including Long Island University, who will try to knock the Huskies off their perch on Wednesday.

"Honestly, there is no reason for us to be complacent," Cole said. "We're number 23 in the country. ... We don't want to be number 23, we want to be top 15, top 10."

For UConn, that starts with high-intensity practices "that are as hard as games," according to Cole. This intensity in practice has carried over. On the defensive end UConn has just allowed 51 points per game through two games.

Cole takes pride in his defensive play.

"You can see on my play, I am probably one of the hardest-working players out there," Cole said. "On the court taking charges, diving on loose balls, everything, so that speaks for itself."

He wasn't always known for his defense.

The Howard transfer, Cole wasn't exactly the defensive player of the year in the MEAC.

"We talked to [Coppin State coach] Juan Dixon after the game who obviously R.J. played against," said UConn associate head coach Kimani Young. "He said to us, 'He never played defense when he was at Howard.' And, 'How did they get a guy like that to play defense?'

Cole's dad, Robert, played for LIU from 1979-1983 and is the program's all-time leading scorer with 1,800 points.

R.J. Cole knows LIU is dying for

Turn to Cole, Page 4

Up next

LIU at UConn

6:30 p.m., FS2

■ Inside: More college basketball coverage. **Page 4**



Safety Tip of the Day

Clearly mark your street number on your mailbox,

fence, gate or wall so you can easily be located in case of an emergency.



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SPORTS**UP NEXT****UConn football:** at Central Florida, Saturday, 4 p.m.**Patriots:** at Falcons, Thursday, 8:20 p.m.**Giants:** at Buccaneers, Monday, 8:15 p.m.**Jets:** Dolphins, Sunday, 1 p.m.**UConn MBB:** LIU (Gampel), Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Binghamton (XL Center), Saturday, noon; vs. Auburn (Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas), Nov. 24, 2:30 p.m.**UConn WBB:** vs.

Minnesota (Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas),

Saturday, noon; vs.

TBA (Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas), Sunday, time TBA; vs. TBA (Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas),

Monday, time TBA

Celtics: at Hawks, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.;

Lakers, Friday, 7:30 p.m.;

Thunder, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Knicks: Magic, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.;

Rockets, Saturday, 5 p.m.;

at Bulls, Sunday, 8 p.m.

Nets: Cavaliers, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.;

Magic, Friday, 7:30 p.m.;

at Cavaliers, Monday, 7 p.m.

UConn hockey: at

UMass Lowell, Saturday, 3:30 p.m.; UMass Lowell, Sunday, 3:30 p.m.;

Colgate, Nov. 27, 4 p.m.

Bruins: at Flyers,

Saturday, 7 p.m.; Flames,

Sunday, 7 p.m.; at Sabres,

Nov. 24, 7 p.m.

Rangers: at Maple

Leafs, Thursday, 7 p.m.;

Sabres, Sunday, 6 p.m.;

at Islanders, Nov. 24,

7:30 p.m.

Wolf Pack: Bridgeport,

Wednesday, 7 p.m.;

at Providence, Friday, 7 p.m.;

Hershey, Saturday,

7:30 p.m.

TV/RADIO**BASKETBALL****6 p.m.:** Boston College at Rhode Island. (Live) CBSNN**6:30 p.m.:** College: LIU at UConn. (Live), FS2**7:30 p.m.:** Boston Celtics at Atlanta Hawks. (Live), NBCSB**7:30 p.m.:** Orlando Magic at New York Knicks. (Live), MSG**7:30 p.m.:** Cleveland

Cavaliers at Brooklyn

Nets. (Live), YES

7 p.m.: Michigan State at Butler. (Live) FS1**7:30 p.m.:** Los Angeles Lakers at Milwaukee

Bucks. (Live) ESPN

8 p.m.: Tulane at Florida

State. (Live) ACC

8 p.m.: NC State at

Oklahoma State. (Live)

CBSSN

9 p.m.: St. Johns at

Indiana. (Live) FS1

10:05 p.m.: Dallas

Mavericks at Phoenix

Suns. (Live) ESPN

FOOTBALL**7 p.m.:** Northern Illinois at Buffalo. (Live) ESPN2**7 p.m.:** Central Michigan at Ball State. (Live)

ESPNU

GOLF**2 a.m. Thu.:** DP World

Tour Championship, First

Round. (Live) GOLF

HOCKEY**3 p.m.:** Montreal

Canadiens at New York

Rangers. (Taped) NHL

7 p.m.: Bridgeport

Islanders at Hartford Wolf

Pack. (Live), Radio: 1410

7 p.m.: Laval Rocket at

Toronto Marlies. (Live)

NHL

9 p.m.: Colorado

Avalanche at Vancouver

Canucks. (Live)

SPRTNET

10 p.m.: Chicago

Blackhawks at Seattle

Kraken. (Live) TNT

VOLLEYBALL**8 p.m.:** Womens College:

Arkansas at Texas A&M.

(Live) SEC

BASEBALL NOTES

Syndergaard spurns Mets for 1-year deal with Angels

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — One day before Noah Syndergaard must accept or reject his qualifying offer, the Mets offseason is taking another shocking twist.

Syndergaard and the Los Angeles Angels are in agreement on a one-year, \$21 million deal, pending a physical, according to an ESPN report. The news broke moments after MLB Network reported Syndergaard was making progress on a deal with the Angels.

If Syndergaard — the Mets right-hander who pitched two innings in 2021 following Tommy John surgery — finalizes his one-year deal with the Angels, it would be a surprising turn of events. He was expected to accept the Mets' \$18.4 million qualifying offer and return to Queens for

at least one year, boosting his value in a healthy season, before hitting free agency again next winter.

The good news for the Mets: they will receive draft pick compensation for Syndergaard and save \$18.4 million if he completes his deal with the Angels. The bad news is, improving the Mets rotation was a major priority even before Syndergaard walked away. Now that he won't be on the pitching staff, the Mets have a Thor-sized hole and a bigger problem to address in their rotation.

Los Angeles, though paying a heavy price for the righty starter, is in need of rotation help, and Syndergaard would join an Angels staff that features two-way star Shohei Ohtani. Many in the industry speculate that the Mets overpaid for Syndergaard by offering him \$18.4 million to re-establish himself in

2022. But Syndergaard did even better, scoring a few million more for a fresh start in Anaheim, Calif. with high upside.

The news comes as a surprise to the Mets fan base, since Syndergaard spent the final weeks of the regular season indicating he would be back in Flushing next season.

Rojas introduced as Yankees third base coach: From the looks of his introductory press conference, new Yankees' third base coach Luis Rojas isn't too upset about his recent breakup with the Mets.

Greeting many of the same media members who covered his two-year tenure as the Mets' manager, Rojas was his typical smiley self during Tuesday's media session. Though he'll be in a familiar city, Rojas knows he must prepare for the difference in intensity levels that comes

with jumping from the Mets to the Yankees.

"Every day there's a lesson," Rojas said of living a baseball life in the Big Apple. "It's a passionate fan base with demands. There's no way around it, you learn, both as a baseball person and as a man, as well."

Rojas' remarks throughout the afternoon made it abundantly clear that his relationship with Aaron Boone — cultivated both from their times managing in the city and during Rojas' interview process — was one of the main selling points for him in taking the job. He also shouted out Yankee bench coach Carlos Mendoza as someone he knows well from their times managing in the minor leagues, and told a story of managing Aaron Judge in a South Atlantic League All-Star Game.

RANGERS 3, CANADIENS 2

Rangers edge Montreal for 4th-straight victory

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chris Kreider had another goal, Kaapo Kakko scored for the second straight game, and the New York Rangers beat the Montreal Canadiens 3-2 Tuesday night for their fourth straight win.

Julien Gauthier also scored and Igor Shesterkin made 31 saves to help the Rangers beat the Canadiens for the fourth time in five meetings. New York also won at Montreal on Oct. 16, spoiling the Canadiens' home opener.

Christian Dvorak and Josh Anderson scored for Montreal, which fell to 1-7-1 on the road. Cayden Primeau had 31 saves in his first start of the season.

Kakko, pointless in his first 10 games this season, opened the scoring with 4:14 left in the first period. The 20-year-old Finnish forward took a slick pass from Artemi Panarin then deposited the puck past Primeau.

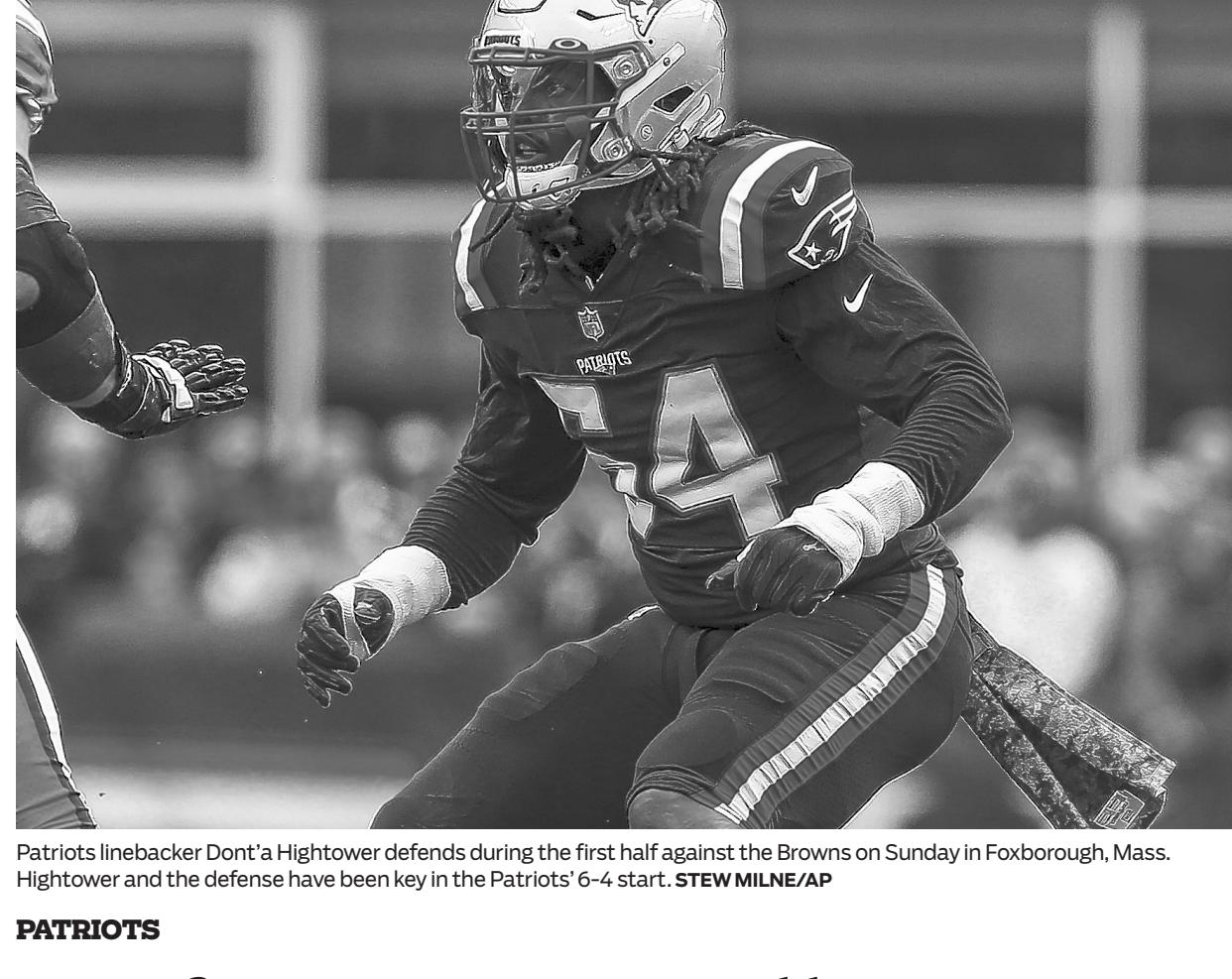
The Rangers were coming off a 4-3 shootout win over the Devils on Sunday night in which Kakko had a goal and an assist. Kakko said after that victory he hoped his scoring touch would re-emerge. He had nine goals in 48 games last season after scoring 10 times in his rookie season.

After Dvorak tied it at 2:17 of the second with his second goal of the season, Kreider put the Rangers ahead with his team-leading 12th at 3:50 after accepting a perfect cross-ice pass from Mika Zibanejad.

Gauthier made it 3-1 with his first goal of the season at 1:56 of the third but Anderson answered 22 seconds later with his fourth to again make it a one-goal game.

Primeau was solid in the early going. A seventh-round pick by the Canadiens in 2017, the 22-year-old was recalled from AHL Laval after starter Jake Allen was injured against Detroit last Saturday. His best save came on point-blank chance by Kreider midway through the first during 4-on-4 play. Primeau also denied Filip Chytil — back after missing three games with an upper body injury — in front about 14 minutes into the opening period during which the Rangers outshot the Canadiens 16-12.

The Canadiens' fell to 4-12-2 on the season, months after reaching the Stanley Cup Finals. Montreal ousted Toronto, Winnipeg and Vegas before losing to the Tampa Bay Lightning in the Finals in five games.



Patriots linebacker Dont'a Hightower defends during the first half against the Browns on Sunday in Foxborough, Mass.

Hightower and the defense have been key in the Patriots' 6-4 start. STEW MILNE/AP

PATRIOTS

Defense is excelling at 'complementary football'

By Jim McBride

Boston Globe

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Matt Feiler never knew what hit him.

The Chargers right guard was pulling behind his center to try to open a hole for running back Larry Roundtree back on Halloween when he came upon a scary sight.

It was Dont'a Hightower crashing through, and the Patriots linebacker knocked the 6-foot-6, 330-pound Feiler nearly back to Labor Day before helping to corral Roundtree.

Seeing Hightower ragdoll pulling and trapping guards has become par for the course this season as the veteran continues to help set the physical tone for the Patriots.

"Makes my day," said a beaming Davon Godchaux Tuesday, when asked what it's like to watch Hightower wreak his brand of havoc.

Godchaux has been in awe of Hightower's strength and presnap recognition in their first season together.

"When you've got a guard trying to double team on the shade or even three tech and you've got a guy like Hightower coming down and he's just lighting him up, that's that team football that we talk about," the nose tackle said.

Godchaux said it's all about complementary football. Occupying blockers and clearing space for the linebackers to roam is a primary responsibility for the defensive front. This season, it's

been a two-way street.

"If they're eating, then I'm eating. So, I mean, if Ja'Whaun [Bentley] and Dont'a are out there flying around, that means I'm doing my job," Godchaux said. "So, the more than can fly around and be free — team football — that's what I'm here for, get a good third and long and rush the passer ... If the ball comes to me, I'll make a play, if the ball goes away where I can't make the play, then we've got Ja'Whaun and [Dont'a] and [Matthew] Judon and all those guys flying around, Kyle Van Noy, the more they can do that the better this football team is going to be."

The Patriots' physicality on both sides of the ball has been obvious during their four-game winning streak as they've dominated in the trenches. It's a point of emphasis every week.

"That's something that we harp on," said Hightower. "Whether it's an identity or people see that when they see us, that doesn't really matter. All that stuff is cool, but in between the lines, if you don't go out and actually do it, if you don't go out and execute and dominate, then all that stuff is just tales. That's something that we're expecting every week, so that's the mind-set we have going into the game."

Back at practice: There was good news on the injury front, with leading rusher Damien Harris and All-Pro return man Gunner Olszewski returning to practice Tuesday. Both had been in the league's concussion protocol since suffering their injuries Nov. 7 at Carolina.

Harris (547 yards, seven touch-

downs) and Olszewski (13.8-yard punt return average) missed Sunday's win over the Browns. They were listed as limited at practice.

With the quick turnaround, the Patriots are conducting only noncontact walkthroughs this week with Tuesday's session being held in the stadium. The team leaves for Atlanta on Wednesday and plays the Falcons Thursday night.

Deatrich Wise, who had a 1.5 sacks Sunday, was the only player who missed practice as he deals with an illness.

The Patriots listed another baker's dozen as limited: linebackers Hightower (ankle), Van Noy (groin), Bentley (ribs), and Josh Uche (ankle); safety Kyle Dugger (ankle); cornerback Jalen Mills (forearm); right tackle Trent Brown (calf); guard Shaq Mason (abdomen); tight end Jonnu Smith (shoulder); receiver N'Keal Harry (knee); running back Brandon Bolden (hip); punter Jake Bailey (right knee); and kicker Nick Folk (left knee).

He's not telling: Mac Jones, who appeared to check out of some plays to exploit mismatches against the Browns, was asked if he had carte blanche when it came to audibles. "That's top-secret information," the rookie quarterback said with a sly grin. ... The team worked out free agent cornerback Jameson Houston. He spent the summer in the Jaguars' training camp before being cut in late August. ... Practice squad kicker Riley Patterson was signed to the Lions' active roster.

Farris

from Page 1

by the pandemic last year, she decided to try the high school team in the fall.

"It was awesome and a

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB	
Brooklyn	10	4	.714	—	
New York	8	6	.571	2	
Philadelphia	8	6	.571	2	
Boston	7	7	.500	3	
Toronto	7	8	.467	3 1/2	
SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB	
Washington	10	3	.769	—	
Miami	9	5	.643	1 1/2	
Charlotte	8	7	.533	3	
Atlanta	6	9	.400	5	
Orlando	3	11	.214	7 1/2	
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	10	4	.714	—	
Cleveland	9	6	.600	1 1/2	
Milwaukee	6	8	.429	4	
Indiana	6	9	.400	4 1/2	
Detroit	3	10	.231	6 1/2	
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	
Dallas	9	5	.692	—	
Memphis	7	7	.500	2 1/2	
San Antonio	4	9	.308	5	
New Orleans	2	13	.133	8	
Houston	1	13	.071	8 1/2	
NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	
Denver	9	5	.643	—	
Utah	8	5	.615	1 1/2	
Portland	7	8	.467	2 1/2	
Oklahoma City	5	8	.385	3 1/2	
Minnesota	4	9	.308	4 1/2	
PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB	
Golden State	11	2	.846	—	
Phoenix	10	3	.769	1	
L.A. Clippers	8	5	.615	3	
L.A. Lakers	8	7	.533	4	
Sacramento	6	8	.429	5 1/2	

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Golden State at Brooklyn, late
Philadelphia at Utah, late
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, late

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Indiana at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Washington at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Portland, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Sacramento 129, Detroit 107
Boston 98, Cleveland 92
Washington 105, New Orleans 100
New York 92, Indiana 84
Atlanta 129, Orlando 111
Memphis 136, Houston 102
Miami 103, Oklahoma City 90
Dallas 111, Denver 101
Phoenix 99, Minnesota 96
Portland 118, Toronto 113
Chicago 121, L.A. Lakers 103

ODDS

NBA WEDNESDAY

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Indiana	6 1/2	(47 1/2)	Utah
at Charlotte	off	(47 1/2)	Washington
at Brooklyn	10 1/2	(20 1/2)	Cleveland
at Milwaukee	off	(47 1/2)	L.A. Lakers
at Miami	off	(47 1/2)	New Orleans
at Atlanta	4	(214)	Boston
at New York	11 1/2	(20 1/2)	Orlando
at Minnesota	2	(22 1/2)	Sacramento
at Oklahoma City	3 1/2	(211)	Houston
at Portland	2 1/2	(221)	Chicago
at Phoenix	6 1/2	(220)	Dallas

NFL WEDNESDAY

FAVORITE	LINE UNDERDOG	LINE
Colorado	-155 at Vancouver +131	-155
at Seattle	-143 Chicago	+120
Washington	-129 at Los Angeles +108	

COLLEGE FOOTBALL WEDNESDAY

FAVORITE	SP	O/U	UNDERDOG
Cent. Michigan	1	(59)	at Ball State
N. Illinois	1 1/2	(60)	at Buffalo
Louisville	19%	(60%)	at Duke
FRIDAY			
at La. Tech	16%	(50%)	Southern Miss
at Houston	9 1/2	(60%)	Memphis
at Wash St.	14%	(52%)	Arizona
at Nevada	1 1/2	(52%)	Air Force
San Diego St.	10%	(41)	at UNLV
SATURDAY			
at Tulane	5 1/2	(60%)	South Florida
Purdue	11	(47 1/2)	at Northwestern
at Ohio State	19	(66 1/2)	Michigan St.
at Penn State	17%	(46 1/2)	Rutgers
at Kentucky	14%	(56 1/2)	N. Mexico
at Oklahoma	4	(60)	Iowa State
at W. Virginia	3 1/2	(56 1/2)	Texas
at Boston Coll.	3 1/2	(56 1/2)	UMass
at Clemson	4	(56 1/2)	Florida St.
at W. Kentucky	10%	(64 1/2)	Wake Forest
at Co. Carolina	24%	(60)	FAU
at Iowa	13	(38 1/2)	Texas State
at Notre Dame	17	(59 1/2)	Georgia Tech
at Wisconsin	9 1/2	(56 1/2)	Nebraska
at Michigan	14%	(56 1/2)	at Maryland
at Alabama	20%	(58)	Arkansas
at Wisconsin	20%	(58)	Tennessee
at Cincinnati	9 1/2	(56 1/2)	SMU
at Pittsburgh	14%	(56 1/2)	Virginia
at M. Tenn.	3%	(51)	Old Dominion
Marshall	14%	(56 1/2)	at Charlotte
at UCF	30%	(56 1/2)	UConn
at Tulsa	21%	(51)	Temple
UCLA	3	(56 1/2)	at USC
at TCU	22	(64 1/2)	Kansas
Florida	8 1/2	(69 1/2)	at Missouri
BYU	20	(58)	Ga. Southern
at NC State	11%	(50 1/2)	Syracuse
Baylor	1	(59)	Kansas St.
California	1 1/2	(45 1/2)	at Stanford
Auburn	7 1/2	(44 1/2)	S. Carolina
North Texas	10	(58)	at FIU
at Tennessee	28	(63)	S. Alabama
at Utah	3	(59)	Oregon
at Miami	7 1/2	(56 1/2)	Va. Tech
Mississippi	36%	(64 1/2)	Vanderbilt
at West. St.	10%	(56 1/2)	Texas Tech
at UTEP	50%	(56 1/2)	Wyoming
at LSU	50%	(56 1/2)	La. Monroe
at Boise State	27%	(48 1/2)	New Mexico
Arizona State	3%	(59 1/2)	at Oregon St.
Colorado St.	2 1/2	(54)	Hawaii

NFL WEEK 11

FAVORITE	SP	O/U	UNDERDOG
New England	6 1/2	(47 1/2)	at Atlanta
SUNDAY			
at Philadelphia	1 1/2	(43 1/2)	New Orleans
Carolina	3 1/2	(43)	at Jets
at Buffalo	7	(50)	Indians
at Cleveland	10	(44)	Detroit
San Francisco	6 1/2	(51)	Jacksonville
at Tennessee	10 1/2	(44 1/2)	Houston
Green Bay	2 1/2	(49)	Minnesota
Baltimore	2 1/2	(49)	at Dallas
Cincinnati	6	(45 1/2)	Chicago
Arizona	2 1/2	(49 1/2)	Las Vegas
at Kansas City	2 1/2	(56 1/2)	Seattle
Dallas	6	(47)	Pittsburgh
at LA Chargers	6	(47)	MONDAY

NFL THURSDAY

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Philadelphia	1 1/2	(43 1/2)	New Orleans
Carolina	3 1/2	(43)	at Jets
Buffalo	7	(50)	Indians
at Cleveland	10	(44)	Detroit
San Francisco	6 1/2	(51)	Jacksonville
at Tennessee	10 1/2	(44 1/2)	Houston
Green Bay	2 1/2	(49)	Minneapolis
Baltimore	2 1/2	(49)	Chicago
Cincinnati	6	(45 1/2)	Las Vegas
Arizona	2 1/2	(49 1/2)	Seattle
at Kansas City	2 1/2	(56 1/2)	Dallas
Dallas	6	(47)	Pittsburgh
at LA Chargers	6	(47)	MONDAY

NFL WEEKEND

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Today: vs. LIU, at Gampel, 6:30 p.m., FS2

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday: vs. Minnesota, Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas, noon, FloHoops.

UCONN
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COVERAGE PRESENTED BY

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UConn's R.J. Cole shoots a free throw against Coppin State on Saturday in Hartford. JESSICA HILL/AP

Cole

from Page 1

the chance to take down UConn, but he isn't afraid.

"UConn is one of the more prominent programs and we are getting back to that," Cole said. "That's how you are supposed to go out there everyday with a target on your back but be like the hunter, not the hunted."

In other news, UConn head coach Dan Hurley missed Tuesday's practice with what the team described as a "minor issue." Hurley is expected to be on the sidelines for Wednesday night's game. Here's everything else you need to know about the matchup.

The basics

No. 23 UConn vs. LIU

Time: 6:30 p.m., Wednesday

Place: Gampel Pavilion

Series: Tied 2-2

Last meeting: UConn 84-69, Nov. 24, 1987, at Charlotte Coliseum

TV: FS2

Live stream: Fox sports website.

Radio: UConn Sports Network (Mike Crispino, Wayne Norman). 97.9-ESPN Hartford. WILI-1400-AM (Willimantic).

LIU (0-2) probable starters, sixth man

Tyrn Flowers, F, 6-9, GS.; Eral Penn, F, 6-7, F.; Isaac Kante, F, 6-8, GS.; Alex Rivera, G, 6-1, Jr.; Tre Wood, G, 6-1, Jr.; Kyndall Davis, G/F, 6-5, So.

No. 23 UConn (2-0) probable starters, sixth man

R.J. Cole, G, 6-1, GS; Isaiah Whaley, F, 6-9, GS; Tyrese Martin, G/F, 6-6, Sr.; Adama Sanogo, F, 6-9, So.; Andre Jackson, G/F, 6-6, So.; Jalen Gaffney, G, 6-3, Jr.

The matchup

UConn's offense: The UConn offense is centered around Sanogo, who is averaging 20 points per game. Currently UConn has five players (Sanogo, Cole, Martin, Gaffney, and Akok Akok) averaging double figures. If freshman Jordan Hawkins returns from an ankle injury, UConn should have an

upick in 3s this game. Currently UConn shoots about 21 3s per game. Young said Whaley, who sprained his ankle against Coppin State, and Hawkins will be game-time decisions.

UConn's defense: Defensive pressure is the name of the game for the Huskies. Keep an eye on the charge count for Cole, who unofficially has five so far.

LIU offense: Flowers leads the team in scoring at 17.5 points per game. In the Sharks' first game, Flowers had a rough go, shooting only 4-for-12 from the field. He bounced back in the second game with a 10-for-20 outing.

LIU defense: The unit has struggled, allowing an average of 91 points per game to opponents.

UConn key: Keep up the defensive pressure.

Player to watch: Whaley. How he guards one of the two leading scorers for LIU in either Flowers or Penn will be pivotal.

About LIU's coach: In his first season Derek Kellogg led the team to a Northeast Conference championship and an NCAA Tournament appearance.

LIU's mascot: The shark was chosen to represent "strength, resolve, and brilliance" in 2019.

Famous alumni: Former NBA player Ossie Schectman.

By Alexa Philippou

PHOTO BY JEFF STONE

UConn

from Page 1

campus, now more than ever Williams and Westbrook are expected to be consistent threats as senior leaders on a team with eight underclassmen. If their performances Sunday are a starting point, that's a good sign for the champion-mind Huskies.

Bueckers may have secured the headlines after the game with her career outing (34 points), but it was Westbrook and Williams who did the work early, much of it in transition. They scored 15 of UConn's 24 first-quarter points and helped the Huskies get out to an early 17-2 lead, after which point the teams were even scoring-wise.

Bueckers only attempted one shot in the first quarter (which she missed). Auriemma — who last season pushed Bueckers to not wait to let the game come to her and instead be more aggressive from the get-go — said he didn't mind.

"I think the first quarter may have been more a function of how E [Westbrook] and Christyn got started and getting out in transition a couple of times and

E knocking down a couple

3s," Auriemma said. "So it really didn't bother me that much that first quarter [that Bueckers took one shot]."

Though Westbrook made her presence felt in other ways — she had eight rebounds (tied for a team high), a team-best five assists and got to the free-throw line often — her 3-point shooting in particular stood out. She hit her first three attempts from deep against Arkansas, making her the only Husky to hit multiple 3s after going 3-for-4 in the Huskies' exhibition the week prior. Given that non-Bueckers Huskies collectively shot 32 percent from the arc last season, any additional success they can have from the perimeter is a welcome sight.

Westbrook shot 33.9 percent from the arc in her first season with UConn, and her career-best 3-point percentage (as a sophomore at Tennessee in 2018-19) is 38.0 percent.

"Throughout the whole summer and the offseason in general, I've been really hard on myself just being consistent," Westbrook said. "So I know as soon as the ball goes up, just telling myself I know it's gonna go in, but I definitely put in the time so there's no hesitation

really for me." For Williams, it was more so the opposite. She was aggressive in getting to the rim, in the process drawing a team-high seven fouls, while attempting just two 3s. After shooting a career-high 4.9 3s per game last season, Williams said she's been trying to get back to her identity of being more of a slasher.

"Freshman year, I did drive to the basket, that was my thing," Williams said. "But I knew I had to work on my outside game as far as shooting and stuff, so I think I really focused on that and it kind of hindered me a little bit because that's all I was focusing on."

"Last year I figured getting to the basket is my bread and butter, why don't I just get back to that? It's just one of those things that it had to click on my own. And that's what happened, and then my outside shot started flowing and it was just a domino effect. So I know that's my bread and butter, and y'all will see me being aggressive."

As Sunday's game went on, the ball was in Bueckers' hands more and more. Though her 19 shot attempts were seven more than Williams' 12, that doesn't mean moving

forward the sophomore will need to do all of the scoring. Ideally the more she draws defensive attention to herself the more others around her will be open.

"The best way for us to get everybody on the team open is make sure that they have to double-team, some cases triple-team Paige," Auriemma said. "That's why we had the ball in her hands so much in the last three quarters."

Bueckers, Westbrook and Williams each played more than 36 minutes, with Bueckers playing all 40. Auriemma said he felt he needed to keep his best scorers on the floor as long as possible because Arkansas had so many ways to score (and UConn was struggling to stop them).

UConn's newcomers don't have a ton of time to find their footing — a potential matchup against No. 1 South Carolina looms next week in the Bahamas. But until then, Williams and Westbrook seem best poised to help Bueckers carry the offense as the rest of the team becomes more comfortable around them.

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UCONN FOOTBALL

All on the line

Defensive tackle Travis Jones to represent Huskies, chase NFL dreams in Senior Bowl

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

Bowl and was taken in the third round of the NFL draft by the New York Giants. He now starts on their offensive line.

"I'm excited, I've seen guys like Matt Peart in [the Senior Bowl] and I wanted to get that opportunity," Jones said. "Peart was here last week and I spoke to him. He just said I've got to go out there and dominate every snap."

He'll be lining up opposite NFL-caliber offensive linemen in the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Alabama, on Feb. 5. Jim Nagy, the Senior Bowl's executive director, has seen Jones play twice, including at Clemson, and called him a "hard-to-move nose [tackle]" who could be eventually be an NFL starter.

"I coached several of those," said Spanos, who had a long career in the NFL, "I've been there and all eyes from the NFL are there. Getting coached by NFL coaches, it's a great opportunity for him and also great for UConn to have that representation."

Jones, an All-State selection at New Haven's Wilbur Cross High in 2017, has played in 34 games at UConn.

"To me, it [representing New Haven] means a lot," he said. "I'm sure kids see me on Instagram and stuff and hopefully I'm motivating them to do the right things."

Krajewski back at QB

Steven Krajewski will be starting at quarterback when the Huskies play at UCF on Saturday at 4 p.m. ET, Spanos said. Both Krajewski and Jack Zergiotis played against Clemson. Krajewski went 6 for 12 for 26 yards. Zergiotis went 9 for 21 for 90 yards and two interceptions.

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UConn's Travis Jones breaks through the line against UMass in 2019. Jones has been invited to play in the Senior Bowl, an important event for NFL scouts and coaches preparing for the draft, in February. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Oklahoma St. beats UMass Lowell behind double-double from Cisse

Associated Press

figures the rest of the game.

Central Connecticut State faced North Carolina State in the nightcap.

Bryce Williams added 11 points and Anderson and Kalib Boone each had 10 points for Oklahoma State (3-1). Isaac Likekele had four assists to move into eighth on Oklahoma State's career list.

Each team turned it over 19 times, but Oklahoma State outscored UMass Lowell (2-1) 44-24 inside the paint.

Did you know?

Every day in the U.S., approximately 9 people are killed and more than 1,000 injured in crashes involving a distracted driver.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Wilson wants to play another decade



Russell Wilson wants to play another decade and hopes to buy an NFL team after he retires. The seven-time Pro Bowl quarterback is focused on helping the Seahawks (3-6) turn their season around but he also has big plans for the future. "I definitely want to play for a long time, but

I think once I'm done, I'd love to own an NFL team and to be able to impact a city, a country and just bring people to the game of football," Wilson told AP for an upcoming episode of the AP Pro Football Podcast. "I'm very big into the business side of things and just sports in general. I love winning. So hopefully I can bring that culture to a team and organization." Wilson is already a minority owner in Seattle's MLS franchise, the Sounders. Wilson, who turns 33 on Nov. 29, has many interests away from football, including storytelling. Along with his wife, Ciara, he founded "Why Not You Productions" and is an executive producer for a new film called "National Champions" that explores college athletes being paid. In the movie, the star quarterback asks both teams to boycott the championship game to protest for fair compensation, equality, and respect for student athletes.

Blue Jays lock up Berrios for 7 years



The Blue Jays have reached an agreement with pitcher Jose Berrios on a seven-year, \$131 million deal, pending a physical, a person familiar with the matter told AP. The Jays acquired the 27-year-old right-hander at the July trade deadline from the Twins. The two-time All-Star was due to become a free agent after the 2022 season. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because there was no official announcement from the Jays about the deal and the person was not authorized to speak about it. Berrios went 5-4 with a 3.58 ERA in 12 starts with the Jays down the stretch. He finished 12-9 last season with a 3.52 ERA overall. Berrios, who is from Puerto Rico, was taken 32nd overall by the Twins in the 2012 amateur draft and has been a durable and reliable starter. The contract will become only the third \$100 million-plus deal in Jays history. The team signed outfielder George Springer to a \$150 million, six-year contract last offseason. Vernon Wells and the Jays agreed to a seven-year, \$126 million contract in 2006. Berrios struck out 204 in 192 innings last season. He has gone 60-47 with a 4.04 ERA in six seasons in the majors.

Keselowski joins expanded RFK



During a Tuesday morning speech to his new race team, Brad Keselowski told the assembled group something Jack Roush's father had taught him as a child. "He said the right thing, and it is one of the things my dad used to say, that in a leadership position you never ask anybody to do something you wouldn't do yourself," Roush told AP. "He indicated to the team that it was his determination not to have somebody do something Brad knows he wouldn't do himself." And with that, Roush knew he'd made the right decision to sell a piece of Roush Fenway Racing to the 2012 NASCAR Cup Series champion. Keselowski's addition means a rebranding of the team, which will be known as RFK Racing going forward. The new name is actually Roush Fenway Keselowski Racing but "we are not naive enough to think that anybody will ever write that or say that based on the length of the name," said team president Steve Newmark. Roush, Keselowski and Newmark left the race shop following the team meeting and headed a few miles down the road to Charlotte Motor Speedway, where the new name and team logos were unveiled. AP



Stanford basketball coach Jerod Haase, left, watches as forward Spencer Jones plays with Haase's dog, Kaci. JANIE McCUALEY/AP

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Building culture at Stanford

In 6th season with Cardinal, Haase has earned support of university, respect of players

By Janie McCauley
Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — With puppy Kaci on the leash eagerly pulling him along, Stanford men's basketball coach Jerod Haase begins one of his regular cross-campus power walks that take slightly different routes depending on the day and how much time he can carve out of his busy schedule.

The playful pooch, who turned 1 in September, tends to stop people and other dogs, or fountain hop to cool off and slow down the entire exercise mission — so she might not be allowed to go along if there's a recruit to host later or a prospect to scout somewhere in a nearby gym.

"She's more part-human than dog, and we treat her that way," Haase says as he ventures out on what will be a two-mile excursion through the sky-high trees and spectacular buildings that make Stanford an architectural treasure.

Haase points to spots where he has made valuable connections with professors or other Stanford standouts, amazed at how VIPs seem to be at every turn at an institution like this.

One friendship he has formed is with Dr. Michael Longaker, a professor in the School of Medicine and the co-director of the Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine.

None of this is by accident. Haase arrived at Stanford from the University of Alabama-Birmingham in 2016 determined to build a lasting culture, a process that didn't come as quickly given numerous injuries and

players who stayed only one season before making the NBA leap.

These days, many of Haase's players have spent some time with Longaker.

"He asks me to meet with recruits when they come on campus," Longaker said. "I've enjoyed that. He's allowed me to do that. He's exactly as advertised. He wants to win and he wants to win at Stanford. I am very grateful for the opportunity. I've met some incredible young men and women at Stanford. Hopefully, it's made a difference on some of them."

When former Stanford star Oscar da Silva visited campus from Germany with his mother, he asked if he could major in chemical and systems biology — so Longaker provided guidance.

Most of the athletes are left inspired by the knowledge and experience in the room.

"It was really cool, we had interesting conversations about what I can do at Stanford outside of basketball, not only in his field but some of the other stuff," recalled senior forward Jaiden Delaire. "He gave me some really good advice on how I should manage my time and who I should talk to."

Junior big man Spencer Jones also found himself moved.

"You're walking by seeing all the students in their little lab coats working on stuff, really making something of their opportunities and they really could change the world," Jones said.

As Haase begins his sixth season, he remains grateful every day he works at a place like Stanford, where he has the support of an entire university. He believes sustained basketball success is coming.

"In some ways it feels like I've been here a long time, in some ways I feel like I'm kind of starting from the beginning still," Haase said. "At Stanford, you usually don't have moving parts, but we've had a lot of moving parts."

What I tell, whether it's my staff, donors or anybody that's interested, if we can crack the code of getting old, we'll be really good. And I think we could be sustained good."

Last season, Stanford was on that path before the pandemic made for "a unique and different year."

That included losing forward Ziaire Williams to the NBA after his freshman season. The 6-foot-8 Williams was the program's highest-ranked recruit ever and is now with the Memphis Grizzlies.

On Oct. 28, Haase took his team to the Warriors' Chase Center in San Francisco to see Golden State host Williams and Memphis — and the players sat courtside to watch reigning scoring champion Stephen Curry's special, entertaining warmup routine.

Recently, two players graduated in three years, while Haase also lost two players to medical hardships that prematurely ended their playing careers.

Two others like Williams left early for the NBA over the past three seasons — two of whom Haase never would have envisioned doing so during the recruiting process.

"Stanford is such a unique place that you can't really explain to anybody until they're really here," Hall of Fame women's basketball coach Tara VanDerveer said. "He understands Stanford. In the beginning, I think it was so different."

For now, Haase is comfortable in his surroundings and committed to exposing his players and three children to all the great opportunities along every path and at every corner on The Farm.

With Kaci the Cavachon in tow, of course. "Wherever we go she tends to be happy," he said, "as long as she can smell and enjoy the day she seems to be happy, and meet people so they can rub her belly."

CFP RANKINGS

Top 7 same; Sooners fall out of Top 10

By Matt Murschel
Orlando Sentinel

Oklahoma dropped out of the top 10 as the top seven teams remain unchanged in the latest College Football Playoff rankings Tuesday evening.

The Sooners (9-1) dropped 5 spots from No. 8 to No. 13 after suffering its first loss of the season to Baylor, 27-14. The Bears, meanwhile, moved up two spots to No. 11.

Georgia (10-0) and Alabama (9-1) remained in the top two spots for the third straight week with both teams on a collision course to meet in the SEC Championship game. Georgia already owns the SEC East divisional crown and Alabama needs a win over Arkansas Saturday to secure the West and spot in Atlanta.

Oregon (9-1) and Ohio State (9-1) stood pat at the third and fourth spots for the second consecutive week. Oregon remained ahead of Ohio State based on its head-to-head win over the Buckeyes on Sept. 11.

No. 5 Cincinnati (10-0) couldn't make up any headway despite its 45-28 win over USF last Friday. The Bearcats host SMU, looking to extend their 25-game home winning streak at Nippert Stadium.

Michigan (9-1) and Michigan State (9-1) came in at No. 6 and No. 7 for the second week in a row. Michigan State remained behind the Wolverines despite winning a head-to-head matchup on Oct. 30.

Oklahoma State (9-1) represents the best hope for the Big 12 to get a team into the playoff after being ranked No. 9.

Wake Forest (9-1) moved into the top 10 after its win over NC State. The Demon Deacons can wrap up the ACC Atlantic Division with a win over Clemson Saturday. It was the highest that Wake has been ranked in the playoff era.

This is the third of six weekly rankings released by the 13-member selection committee, with the final standings revealed on Sunday, Dec. 5. Those rankings will determine the four semifinalists along with the teams taking part in the New Year's Six bowl games.

The two semifinals, which rotate annually, will take place in Dallas at the Cotton Bowl and in Miami at the Orange Bowl on Friday, Dec. 31.

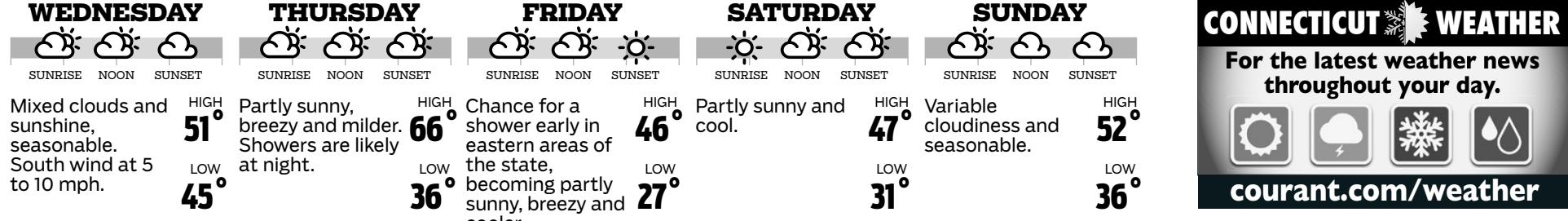
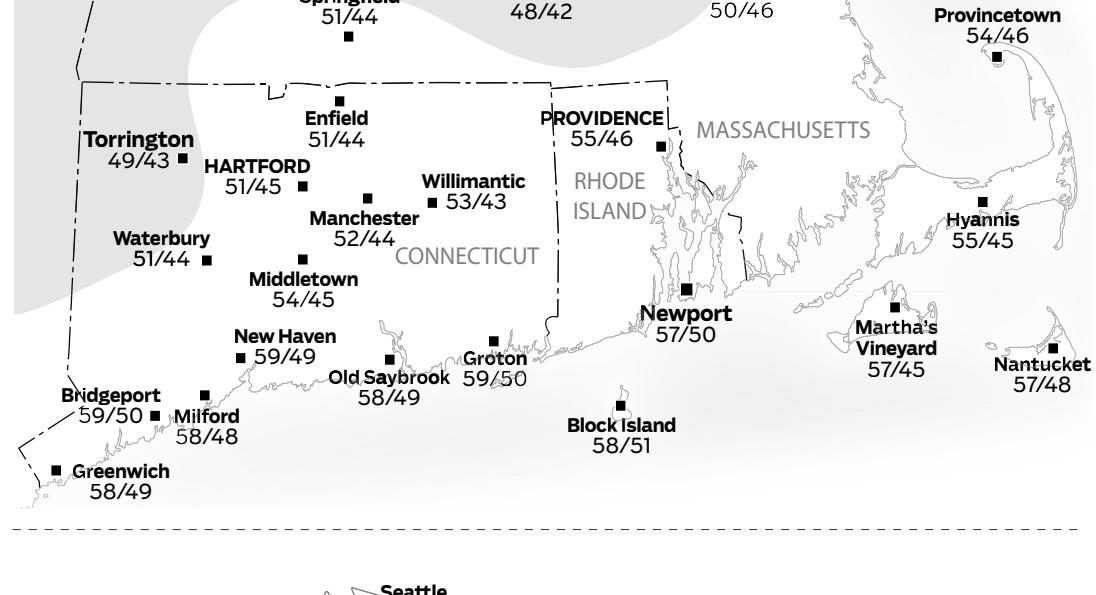
The Peach (Dec. 30), Fiesta (Jan. 1), Rose (Jan. 1) and Sugar (Jan. 1) bowls host the rest of the New Year's Six games.

If Cincinnati doesn't qualify for the semifinals, the Bearcats would be eligible to earn an automatic spot in one of the New Year's Six Access bowl games as the top-ranked conference champion from the Group of Five.

The College Football Playoff National Championship Game is slated for Monday, Jan. 10 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

CFP rankings (Tuesday)

Rank, team	Record
1. Georgia	10-0
2. Alabama	9-1
3. Oregon	9-1
4. Ohio State	8-1
5. Cincinnati	10-0
6. Michigan	9-1
7. Michigan State	9-1
8. Notre Dame	9-1
9. Oklahoma State	9-1
10. Wake Forest	9-1
11. Baylor	8-2
12. Mississippi	8-2
13. Oklahoma	9-1
14. BYU	8-2
15. Wisconsin	6-3
16. Texas A&M	7-3
17. Iowa	8-2
18. Pittsburgh	8-2
19. San Diego State	9-1
20. NC State	7-3
21. Arkansas	7-3
22. UTSA	10-0
23. Utah	7-3
24. Houston	9-1
25. Mississippi State	6-4

WEATHER**YOURCAST****AROUND THE WORLD**

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND		NATION		WORLD		CIA STATE TOURNAMENTS	
Bangor	40 33 PC	Baltimore	59 47 PC	Nashville	72 51 PC	San Juan	85 76 SH
Burlington	45 43 PC	Bismarck	35 15 C	New Orleans	80 63 PC	Budapest	50 39 PC
Caribou	36 28 PC	Boise	44 29 S	New York	54 51 PC	Buenos Aires	71 56 S
Concord	45 33 PC	Buffalo	57 48 C	Oklahoma City	59 32 PC	Amsterdam	53 46 SH
Montpelier	38 53 PC	Charleston	77 58 PC	Omaha	53 25 PC	Athens	63 47 PC
Mt. Wash.	31 29 PC	Cincinnati	68 43 C	Orlando	82 64 PC	Bangkok	90 75 SH
Portland	42 39 PC	Cleveland	63 43 C	Pittsburgh	66 50 PC	Barbados	80 75 SH
Woods Hole	49 48 PC	Indianapolis	63 39 C	Raleigh	72 53 S	Beijing	59 34 PC
		Jacksonville	75 58 PC	St. Louis	65 36 C	Helsinki	42 38 SH
						Hong Kong	76 64 S
						Istanbul	58 46 C
						Rome	80 47 PC
						Jerusalem	71 55 PC
						Johannesburg	86 63 PC
						Singapore	89 77 SH

KEY: **S** Sunny, **C** Cloudy, **PC** Partly Cloudy, **R** Rain, **SH** Showers, **SN** Snow, **SF** Snow Flurries, **T** T-storms**OUTLOOK**

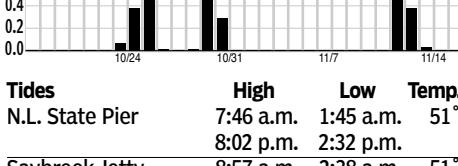
High pressure over the Northeast will bring partly sunny skies Wednesday morning, but as the day progresses and a warm front approaches from the southwest clouds will thicken. Temperatures will be seasonable with highs mainly in the 50s, although the higher elevations of the state will remain in the upper 40s. Thursday will be partly to mostly sunny and unseasonably mild with highs in the 60s. Unfortunately, it won't last longer than one day. A cold front will move through Thursday night with showers, then cool readings are expected through the weekend.

-Gary Lesser

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00 0.11
Month to date	1.53 1.78
Total this year	51.57 41.24

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

30-day Precipitation History In Inches**Air Quality Forecast For Today**Good **29**Low **1**

Air Quality Today

Ultraviolet Index Today

Wind Chill Today

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	7:46 a.m.	1:45 a.m.	51°
	8:02 p.m.	2:32 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	8:57 a.m.	2:38 a.m.	51°
	9:13 p.m.	3:25 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	11:40 a.m.	6:24 a.m.	
	11:56 p.m.	7:11 p.m.	
Madison	9:15 a.m.	2:56 a.m.	52°
	9:41 p.m.	3:34 p.m.	
New Haven	9:35 a.m.	3:20 a.m.	53°
	10:01 p.m.	3:58 p.m.	
Stamford	9:39 a.m.	3:34 a.m.	57°
	10:05 p.m.	4:12 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 7.93 feet at 5:30 p.m.

Boating	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
Weather	PCloudy	PCloudy	PCloudy
Wind	SW/S, 5	NW/S, 5-15	W/S, 5-15

Seas 1 ft. 1-2 ft. 1-3 ft.

Moon Phase

Full Nov 19

Last Nov 27

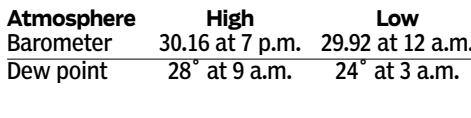
New Dec 4

First Dec 10

Temperature	High	Low
Tuesday	49 at 12:04 p.m.	34 at 6:57 a.m.
Normal for date	51	33
Record for date	72 in 1990	14 in 1933
A year ago	54	36
Range this year	99	1

Heating Degree Days Season Normal Last Season

For July 1 - Nov 16 604 808 670

30-day Temperature History

Atmosphere	High	Low
Barometer	30.16 at 7 p.m.	29.92 at 12 a.m.
Dew point	28° at 9 a.m.	24° at 3 a.m.

TUESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

CIA STATE TOURNAMENTS

GIRLS SOCCER

Class LL—Semifinals
STAPLES 1, FAIRFIELD WARDE 0
WILTON 1, FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE 1 (WILTON WINS IN PKS, 3-1)
Class L—Semifinals
SIMSBURY 0, E.O. SMITH 0 (SIMSBURY WINS IN PKS, 4-1)
ST. JOSEPH 4, WATERFORD 0

Class M—Semifinals
MERCY 3, GRANBY 0
Goals: M—Katelyn Ford, 2; G—Kayla Davis, 3. Rec: M—16-2-2; G—15-5.

Note: Smith also had an assist.

SACRED HEART ACADEMY 1, NOTRE DAME-FAIRFIELD 0

Class S—Semifinals

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 4, COGNINCHAUG 0

HOLY CROSS 3, SOMERS 0

FIELD HOCKEY

Class L—Semifinals
NEW CANAAN 2, GLASTONBURY 1 (WILTON 0, DARIEN 0 (WILTON WINS SO, 3-2))

Class M—Semifinals
WETHERSFIELD 1, BARLOW 1 (WETHERSFIELD WINS SO, 3-2)

GUILFORD 6, POMPERAUG 0

Class S—Semifinals